y and Weekly Commercial
Two reasons. 1. Any one who takes
erly from the Postoffice, whether di-
name or another's, or whether he
scribe—is responsible for the payment.
son orders his paper discontinued, h
arrearage, or the publisher may
it until payment is made and collec
ount, whether the paper is taken from
ourt has decided that refusing to take
or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima
of intentional fraud.
ANCES must be made in Money Orders
Drafts, if possible. When neither
be procured, send the Money in a Reg
The present Registration system is
Absolute Protection Against Losses by
Postmasters are obliged to register let
r requested to do so.
ications designed for publication
ddressed to
RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.
on Business, Subscriptions, &c., ad
ERRETT, Pittsburgh, Pa.

C 1876.

THE
urgh Commercial
FOR THE
ENNIAL YEAR
e marks an important epoch in Amer-
mpicting as it does the
ntury of the Republic.
more than ordinary moment are to be
ing the approaching Centennial year.
s itself informed thereof. To secure
only necessary details and read matter
EWSPAPER
UCH AS THE
IRGH COMMERCIAL.
e, as in the past, it will be a
e of the Times,
ED HISTORY OF THE AGE, giving
ate accounts of all events, at home and
ding graphic reports of our
Centennial Exposition
ific.
ll be given to the Progress and

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII—NO. 8. WEEKLY EDITION. JANUARY 1, 1876

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Decmb. 23, 1875.

Resignation of Col. Reisinger.

Col. Reisinger, of Meadville, special agent of the Treasury, has sent in resignation to the Secretary of the Treasury, to take effect during the latter part of January. The Secretary has appointed C. Walborn, of Philadelphia, to fill the vacancy, to take effect upon the retirement of Mr. Reisinger. The resignation of the latter gentleman was necessitated by the pressure of private interests. Mr. Worn will be assigned to duty at Philadelphia in connection with the Centennial.

Model of Suez Canal for the Centennial.

It is learned here through official and recently returned from Europe that the eminent French engineer, Ferdinand de Lesseps, the projector of the maritime canal at Suez, has in contemplation the exhibition at the Centennial of a elaborate, artistic and graduated model of the canal. It is intended that the model will not only exhibit the topographical features of the canal and the desert region immediately contiguous, but will also illustrate the various mechanical appliances used in the excavation and construction of the work. Through the region traversed by the canal may still be seen specimens of one of those ancient artificial water courses for trade and irrigation constructed by the Pharaohs. The region is also prominently identified with Biblical history. The wanderings of the Israelites in the Wilderness was through this same section, and the names associated with these celebrated peregrinations are still to be met with in this sandy land along the canal and near by. M. Ferdinand De Lesseps' contribution to the Centennial will, therefore, possess interest and instruction not only to engineers and merchants or commercial men, but to Biblical students.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 24, 1875.

The Guillotine Again in Operation.

The holiday season of Christmas was turned into an occasion of sorrow in the Patent Office to-day, by the decapitation of forty more unfortunate employees. It is known that in that bureau are a number of Democrats, and it is proposed to scalp them forthwith. A regular list of victims has been prepared, and will be submitted to the Secretary for consideration. The Secretary has expressed his determination to root out every man in his department who does not show very decided evidences of Republicanism.

Funding of the Public Debt.

The Secretary of the Treasury said, to-day, that he would not make any additional recommendations to Congress in reference to the further funding of the public debt, unless he should be asked to do so. He says that the national credit in Europe continues to maintain its satisfactory standing, and with the rates now paid for the new fives, there was no special rate of interest, the remainder of the six per cent. bonds in a reasonable time, and within the limits of the statutes on that subject. The Secretary favors an extension of the time of the redemption of the bonds to be hereafter issued from fifteen to thirty years from the date of issue. He thinks that bonds most sought after for investment are those which have a long period to run before reaching maturity, and that very moderate inducement adopted to increase their popularity. There is some question in his mind as to the feasibility of a four-and-a-half per cent. loan, though unless Congress takes the initiative of increasing the rate, he will carry out, if possible, the provisions of the acts of 1870 and 1871.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 26, 1875.

Place for Republican National Convention.

Several Ohio politicians now in the city will urge the selection of Cleveland as the place for holding the next Republican Convention. It is said that Cleveland has all the requisites necessary to the holding of a Convention, which seems to be desired, but the effect will be salutary. An effort will also be made in favor of Philadelphia, but doubtless without success. Your correspondent advised a friend to think that the place most likely to be chosen is Cleveland, Cincinnati or Chicago.

The Kentucky Senatorship.

The election of a Senator from Kentucky in January promises it quite lively amongst Kentuckians here. The most prominent persons mentioned are the present Senator (Stevenson), ex-Representative Beck, Gen. Williams and Governor Leslie.

Belknap's Senatorial Prospects.

A private letter from Iowa alludes to General Belknap's chances for the Senatorship from that State as the best. Should he be elected, he would not necessarily resign the portfolio of war, as his term would not commence until after the expiration of the present administration.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 27, 1875.

Reorganization of Republican Congressional Committee.

The Resident Republican Committee, in conjunction with such members of the Congressional Committee as may be in the city, will meet early after the reassembling of Congress to determine upon a time for holding a caucus to select a representative from each State, where each State has a Republican member in either House, to serve on the Congressional Committee. At least one-half of the members appointed on this committee in the last campaign are no longer in Congress, so that it will be necessary to substitute others in their places. It is proposed to fill up the general committee and to reorganize the Executive and Resident Committees so as to place them in condition for effective work in the approaching campaign. The Resident Committee is charged with the preparation and distribution of documents containing pertinent facts and information.

The "Inter-Ocean" Sensation.

General Babcock to-day, in conversation, pronounced the statements in a Chicago paper, so far as they relate to him, pure fabrications. Secretary Bristow says the same thing with respect to the allegations against himself.

Reduction of Force in Patent Office.

The wholesale political decapitations in the Patent Office have created quite a storm of letters and protests from members of Congress. The Secretary, however, is in earnest in his reduction of the expenses of his Department, and is not in the least terrified by this epistolary bombardment.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 23, 1875.

A DAMAGING REPORT EXPECTED.

Some time ago a commission, of which Commissioner of Internal Revenue Pratt was made Chairman, was appointed by Secretary Bristow to examine into the mode of the administration of the public business in the offices of the Second Comptroller and Third Auditor of the Treasury. The immediate cause which constrained the appointment of the commission was the payment of the fraudulent log claim to one Wilkoski, the report upon which in the payment was made having passed through both the offices under investigation. A good deal of testimony was taken, and in addition the commission involved an examination of the books and papers of both offices for years back. The report is now being prepared, and will be submitted to Secretary Bristow some time this week. It is understood that it is quite a damaging document, and while no direct charge of incompetency is made against Comptroller Brodhead or Third Auditor Sutherford, the statement is made that there has been an almost inexcusable looseness among the officers holding subordinate places. The effect of the report will no doubt result in the reorganization of the several divisions and a change of the heads now in charge of the same.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 25, 1875.

WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN DROWNED IN THE POTOMAC.

Last evening a colored man named Simms, residing in Uniontown, D. C., while driving home from Washington drove on an old bridge crossing the eastern branch of the Potomac, and his horse becoming unmanageable backed overboard with the wagon containing the wife, child and an adopted son of Simms, all of whom were drowned. Simms escaped.

WASHINGTON, D.C., December 26, 1875.

OUR MEXICAN BORDER—THE GOVERNMENT DISPOSED TO PROTECT TEXANS FROM RAIDS—CORRESPONDENCE OF MINISTER FOSTER ON THE SUBJECT.

The continued raids of Mexican thieves across the Rio Grande into Texas is attracting the serious attention of the Administration, and it is believed that the President will make this matter a subject of a special message at an early day. It has been the policy of the Administration to deal in the most generous manner with the Government of Mexico in all questions affecting the interests of the two countries. This has been especially true in regard to the question of depredations committed by Mexicans on the Texas border. The Mexican Government has been ready with fair promises, but none of them have been kept. The condition of affairs on the Rio Grande has grown worse year by year, and now the Administration has reached the conclusion that the Government of Mexico is powerless to prevent raids, and that in order to protect the life and property of American citizens of the border, it will be necessary to adopt some secure measures of our own, even at the risk of causing a breach of the friendly relations existing between the two Governments. It is even suggested that the Mexican Government should be officially notified that further aggressions on the Rio Grande will be considered as a *casus belli* and acted on, and if the nuisance is not then abated promptly and effectually, let the declaration of war be followed by the act itself, and that without unnecessary loss of time.

From official correspondence it appears that sometime since Minister Foster asked permission of the Mexican Government for regular troops of the United States to follow raiders across the border when in close pursuit, or permission to temporarily occupy certain points on the Mexican side where the raiders are accustomed to come across the river. The reply of the Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs was that the Executive had no authority to grant such permission without the consent of Congress, and that it would not be prudent to ask such consent, as the sentiment of the country would not approve it. Mr. Foster was authorized to give assurance that our Government had no design of acquiring an extension of territory, but said that the acknowledgement of the Mexican Government of its inability to restrain the lawlessness of its own citizens would afford the strongest possible argument to all the advocates of the acquisition of territory there may be in the United States. Mr. Foster further said that the citizens of Texas must be protected, and that if protection did not come from the Mexican Government it must come from ours.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 27, 1875.

AN EXPLANATION FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY COWEN.

General B. R. Cowen, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, makes the following statement with reference to the article published in New York last Saturday charging him with issuing Agricultural College scrip to the State of Arkansas in advance of the expressed will of Congress, which required that State previously make arrangements for funding certain of its bonds held as part of the Indian trust funds. He says the article has one item of importance to the completion of history, namely, the fact that the old and worthless bonds of Arkansas, held by the Secretary of the Interior in trust, were refunded at principal and interest, by new bonds, in accordance with an arrangement made before the agricultural scrip was released, though some complaint was made at the time and is still upheld as proper, regular and strictly legal.

CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS.

The sub-committee of the House Committee on Appropriations expect to have the Pension, the West Point Academy and the Consular and Diplomatic appropriation bills ready to report on the reassembling of the House of Representatives.

WEEKLY LIST OF UNITED STATES PATENTS issued to the inventors of Pennsylvania and Ohio for the week ending December 21, 1875, reported by telegraph expressly for the Commercial, by A. H. Evans & Co., Patent Solicitors, Gazette building, Washington, D. C.:

[Pennsylvania.]

J. Bumbaugh, Pittsburgh—Nail separating machine.
G. Jacoby, Berwick—Tire upsetters.
J. Mathews, McKeesport—Joints for tubes.
J. Keels, Jr., Pittsburgh—Glass furnaces.
J. O'Brien, Pittsburgh—Horse detaching apparatus.
J. Ember, Beaver Valley—Sash fastening.
H. Smith, Philadelphia—Process for utilizing dross.
F. Emmick, Reading—Hot air furnaces.
S. Fry, Meadville—Stovepipe sleeves.
S. Fry, Meadville—Car coupling.
D. McLee, Pittsburgh—Shoe fastening.
D. Bigham, McKeytown—Horseshoe machine.
J. Hartmann, Philadelphia—Iron truss bridges.
G. C. Meyer, Philadelphia—Neck ties.
J. C. Greensville—Carriage wheels.
J. Flinn, Philadelphia—Furniture springs.
D. Gross, Philadelphia—Safety attachments for pocket books.
Wm. Gyn, Waterloo—Balancing mill stones.
F. O. Hat, Philadelphia—Iron fences.
A. Sweet, Wm. A. Grove—Lionesta—Stump extr
H. H. Kohl, Philadelphia—Stove pipe joints.
J. F. McCall, Philadelphia—Mechanical movements.
Wm. Hand, R. Young, Pittsburgh—Method of treating
A. W. McKee, Shinnesdale—Wagon springs.
J. D. Hunt, Wyalusing—Covering for steam boiler pipes.
H. Swayze, Morse—Hot air furnaces.
I. Starr, Philadelphia—Invalid chair.
J. Wiland, Sproul—Car dumping apparatus.
Reissue—R. Saunings, Philadelphia—Envelopes.
Designs—F. O. Nelson, Philadelphia—Gates and panels.
F. O. Nelson, Philadelphia—Gates.
L. Sim, Philadelphia—Gates.
Trade Mark—I. T. Smart, Philadelphia—Medical compound.

[Ohio.]

A. Barnard, Cincinnati—Water proof coupound.
E. Booth, Columbus—Running gear for Vehicles.
G. B. Mease, Upper Sandusky—Revolving book-
[illegible] North Washington—Whiffletree hooks.
J. F. Abbott, Cleveland—Eaves trough hangers.
S. L. Beebe and E. Beebe, North Ridgeville—Lathes for turning broom handles.
W. Ward, Ripley—Washing and wringing machine.
J. L. Ewell, Athens—Vice for teaching drawings.
Wm. Edmister, Hunting—Shoe fastening.
L. L. Lye, Allen county—Anti-incrustation compound.
F. C. Moore, Lafayette—Stalk knives.
G. S. Stearns, Cincinnati—Corner joints for boxes.
J. Whelin, Zanesville—Apparatus for preserving carbonaceous matter.
H. Belch, Columbus—Machine for sewing machine.
H. Converse, Sandusky—Fronts.
C. W. Evans, Cincinnati—Trap.
J. J. Hardenbrook, Columbus—Grate for heating drums.
W. C. Margedant, Hamilton—Furnace planing machine.
J. Massie, Ironton—Boot jack.
G. G. Morgan, Urichsville—Car wheel.
Wm. C. Packham, Elyria—Eccentric.
A. Schumacker, Cincinnati—Nozzles.
R. H. St. John, Springfield—Spring motion.
Reissue—D. W. Hill, Akron—Trunks.

LOUISIANA.

Deputy United States Marshal Kidnaped —Bayou Sara in Charge of Regulators —Louisiana Lottery Drawing.

NEW ORLEANS, December 26.—The following was received, in answer to a telegram of yesterday morning, inquiring about Deputy Marshal Young:

BAYOU SARA, December 25.
S. B. Packard, United States Marshal, New Orleans.

A. L. Young, Deputy Marshal, and another man were kidnaped about one o'clock on the morning of the 25th of December, at Henrietta Hall. The blood of colored people flowed freely in the town. Negotiations are on foot, and quiets are disturbed in their proper shape. Troops are wanted. Life and property unsafe.

[Signed] P. G. A. KAUFMAN,
Sheriff West Feliciana.

The above telegram is given for what it is worth. There is no confirmation of disturbance at Bayou Sara. Marshal Young arrived here to-day, with his prisoner, Postmaster Callaghan, of Jackson, La., in the parish prison, where he came of his own accord. He disclaims any knowledge of the gang of masks who captured Marshal Young and himself, and subsequently telling both to go.

LOUISIANA LOTTERY.

NEW ORLEANS, December 27.—The drawing of the Louisiana lottery, at the Academy of Music to-day, was witnessed by an immense number of spectators. Everything passed off satisfactorily. The following numbers drew the principal prizes: 582 won $100,000; 16,769 drew $50,000; 2,249 drew $20,000; 11,193 drew $10,000; 13,818 and 15,406 each drew $5,000, and the following drew $2,500 each: 769, 1,898, 6,004 and 11,470.

THE BATTLE OF TRENTON.

Celebration of Ninety-Ninth Anniversary.

TRENTON, N. J., December 27.—The anniversary of the Battle of Trenton to-day was attended by a good deal of enthusiasm. Notwithstanding it was confined altogether to citizens of Trenton, about ten thousand persons engaged in the celebration. There was one military company, and all the others were in companies made up from citizens in uniforms, but not supplied with arms from the State Arsenal. General Washington and Generals Sullivan, Green and Mercer were all present, and also Colonel Rahl and others of the Hessians or British army. The movement of troops began at eight o'clock, and the fighting through the streets between the contending armies reached its height about ten o'clock. The surrender took place at Assunpink creek, and was received with cheers. In the afternoon an oration was delivered to large audience, at the Taylor Opera House, by General Campbell, General Rushing, Wm. A. Barron, E. C. Stahlnecker and James Nast. The immense crowd of troops dined at Washington Hall. The day passed off without accidents.

Capture and Massacre of Egyptian Troops by Abyssinians.

NEW YORK, December 24.—The *Weser Zeitung*, of Bremen, of December 8, contains the following account of the capture and massacre of a detachment of Egyptian troops by Abyssinians, briefly reported some time ago by cable: "We have bad news from Abyssinia. An expedition of about 3,000 men, sent by the Turkish under command of General Arendrop, a Dane, to subjugate the Abyssinians, was drawn into ambush, and nearly every man slaughtered. Greenhill Russell and many others officers were literally hacked in pieces, and their heads stuck on spears before the Abyssinians' seats, and their bodies are sent to the wild beasts. Mackillop Pasha is said to be alive and a prisoner. Of Col. Rouh, the American, nothing is known, and only one officer (Schweizer) escaped. An expedition comprising 22,000 men, infantry, cavalry and artillery, is to be sent out from Cairo without a day, and will be joined by every American officer in the Egyptian service, including Col. Stone."

WHISKY FRAUDS.

Strange Charges Against Secretary Bristow.

Sensation by the Chicago "Inter-Ocean."

A FLAT DENIAL FROM LOUISVILLE.

CHICAGO, December 25.—The *Inter-Ocean* this morning publishes a statement that Secretary Bristow is soon to be investigated by a Congressional committee and pretends to show that his dealings with distillers and rectifiers before his appointment as Secretary were questionable. The following is a summary of the statement, which is very long: The Congressional committee is to be composed of four Democrats and three Republicans, with Randall as Chairman. Babcock proposes to appear before this committee and testify to all facts in his possession, with the object of securing immunity from any prosecution against himself, and enable the honest element of the Democratic party to dispose of Bristow by showing that he has, from the start, been as deep in the mud as John A. Joyce is now in the penitentiary. He will explain his dispatches and call four witnesses to substantiate his story. Babcock will testify that Bristow has been attorney and counsel for whisky men in Louisville and Cincinnati; that his brother-in-law, Weiler, is a brother of Weiler, the Louisville whisky man; that whenever the Secretary visits Louisville he makes his home at the residence of his brother-in-law, and that when he goes to Cincinnati he stops with one Holzart, who is connected with one of the largest whisky houses in that city. Babcock also claims to be able to show that during January, 1874, Whisky was seized in Chicago and Peoria consigned by Cunningham & Co., of Louisville; that Bristow was at that time counsel for Cunningham & Co. Ex-Internal Revenue Agent Glover, of Chicago, says that he received private letters from Bristow asking that that whisky be released. To these letters Mr. Glover sent a final refusal. He says he received several applications, all of which he refused, and upon the appointment of Bristow as Secretary of the Treasury, he (Bristow) sent a confidential order for the release of the whisky at Peoria. Bristow, it is affirmed, had worked in conjunction with certain counsel in his city for the release of that whisky, and upon his appointment as Secretary the remark was made, "By ——, we'll have that whisky now!"

SPECIFIC DENIAL FROM LOUISVILLE.

LOUISVILLE, December 26.—The Chicago *Inter-Ocean's* charges and insinuations relative to Secretary Bristow, which were published at length Saturday last, were reproduced in the *Courier-Journal* to-day and read very generally in Louisville, as it was well known here that the ward and never has been connected with or counsel for Louisville whisky firms. Statements to the contrary only receive ridicule in Kentucky. It is alleged in the *Inter-Ocean's* report that when Bristow visits Louisville he invariably makes his stay at the house of Mr. Jacob Weiler, his brother-in-law, and the brother of W. L. Weiler, a whisky dealer and rectifier. Both the Weilers deny this and say that while Bristow and his brother-in-law have always been friendly, they are not at all intimate; further, that Bristow says puts up at the Galt House and votes in the ward in which all the residents of the hotel mentioned are required to do their voting. As far as Mr. W. L. Weiler is concerned, he says Mr. Bristow has never acted as counsel for him, but one time assisted, as in duty bound, in the prosecution of his firm for an alleged technical violation of the revenue laws.

In reference to the whisky of J. A. Cunningham, seized at Peoria and referred to by the *Inter-Ocean*, the facts are that the whisky was sent to Monks & Cobb, of this city, to J. A. Cunningham. After the seizure, Bristow, while here and before he became Secretary of the Treasury, had friendly act Monks & Cobb, wrote to the District Attorney at Chicago requesting that he defer action till all the facts were ascertained. He says that the whisky and parties were not seized at Chicago, were forfeited because there was no defense. The parties interested were notified, and Cunningham taken by surprise, a new trial was granted and the case is still pending. J. A. Cunningham has refused the compromise offered because they insisted that the whisky was all right. After Bristow became Secretary of the Treasury he was applied to by Cobb to order the release of the whisky, but declined to act in the matter, on the subject, for the reason that he had been consulted by Cobb prior to becoming Secretary, unless the Commissioner of Internal Revenue should first obtain the order of the Treasury should recommend the release. These are the facts as gathered from Cobb, a gentleman of the highest standing here. He also says an agent of the Government investigated the whole case and reported nothing wrong about the whisky. He has really complained that Bristow's sensitiveness as to official propriety has prevented him from doing what the facts would have justified him in doing. Mr. Cunningham says there was no excuse for the seizure of his whisky, that ex-Commissioner Douglass was apprised of the facts concerning it, and intimated that money would secure its restoration. Mr. Cunningham says he has paid nothing, and does not intend to use money to secure what properly belongs to him.

All the other whisky men named in the *Inter-Ocean* article as having employed Bristow, including the Newcomb Buchanan Company, deny such statements. Democrats here are indignant at the *Inter-Ocean's* attempt to ally them with a scheme to aid the whisky ring and Babcock.

It is ascertained from reliable sources that Secretary Bristow does not know Hobart, of Cincinnati, with whom the *Inter-Ocean* charges he always stays when in that city.

CASUALTIES.

Collision on a Kentucky Railroad.

LOUISVILLE, December 23.—A passenger train on the Louisville and Nashville and Great Southern Railroad ran into the rear end of a freight train of the same company, this morning, near Short Line Junction. The morning was dark, the feight had out no signals, and was not seen by the passenger engineer in time to prevent telescoping. Frank Moore, engineer of the passenger train, received injuries to the head, besides having his thigh and knee broken. One of the firemen was slightly hurt. All the passengers escaped any injury. The engine and a number of caps and baggage cars were badly wrecked.

The Boston Gas Explosion—Only Five Lives Lost

BOSTON, December 24.—No further deaths have been made of bodies at the site of the gas explosion last night, and several persons reported missing have been found, it is probable that the actual number of lives lost will be narrowed down to five. One or two of the wounded have died.

LATER—The bodies of two more victims of the explosion last night were recovered this forenoon to-day—John Kells and Joseph Elwell.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Spain.

PROGRAMME FOR THE FUTURE.

MADRID, December 23.—The *Epoca* says when the Carlist insurrection is suppressed, an efficient army will be maintained in Cuba as a measure of precaution, and that heavy guns will be placed on the coast. At the same time Spain will propose to the United States a new and mutually advantageous treaty of commerce. Subscriptions have already been opened to defray the cost of manufacturing heavy guns for the defense of Cuba.

SPAIN RESOLVED TO SUBDUE CUBA.

MADRID, December 24.—Nine hundred soldiers will embark for Cuba on the 30th. The *Epoca* declares that Spain is resolved to retain Cuba, even if the insurrents should obtain greater forces, and could rely on some powerful protector.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF HERNANI.

SAN SEBASTIAN, December 27.—Owing to the vigorous bombardment of Hernani by the Carlists, the situation there has become critical, and it is thought that the garrison will evacuate unless promptly reinforced.

France.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

PARIS, December 24.—In the Assembly today, the Press bill was under debate. M. Grevy proposed that the Press bill and state of siege be dealt with in separate bills: that the state of siege be raised throughout the country, and the consideration of the Press bill be postponed. M. Buffet defended the Government bill as it stood. He denied, notwithstanding the result of the Senatorial elections, the existence of an opposition majority. The Ministry would support conservative union both at elections and in the Chambers. He pointed to the overthrow of previous governments to show that the whole conservative population loyally adhered. The Conservative Union would not allow the machinations of those governments. He showed how the Bonapartists had supported the Semaphoric principles of the Left, and gained nothing in return, and asked, Will their alliance afford them any less guarantees? He concluded as follows: The Constitution of the 25th of February is not the last word of political wisdom, but we must admit it is the best the country requires reorganization. It must return to the hands of men who are ready to purge, in conjunction with a President Mac Mahon, a policy of social preservation, and give aid to the victorious parties, who will henceforth become the decisive instrument of radical passions. M. Malcolm, in reply to M. Buffet, offered the country a Marshal without a Republic. M. Grevy's proposal to legislate separately on the press is carried by a majority of 15, the vote of 75 to 30. The Bonapartists voted with the Government.

Switzerland.

ACCIDENT IN A SCHOOL HOUSE—EIGHTY PERSONS KILLED AND FIFTY WOUNDED.

BERNE, December 27.—News has been received here of a dreadful calamity which occurred in the little village of Hillikan, in the Canton of Aargau, on Saturday. Christmas festivities were being celebrated in a school house in that place, when the flooring gave way. Eighty persons were killed and fifty more or less wounded.

European Turkey.

GREAT BATTLE IN HERZEGOVINA.

LONDON, December 27.—A dispatch from the seat of the Herzegovina states that a great battle took place Thursday last, near Nitchitza, lasting nearly all day. Fifteen thousand troops were engaged. The Turkish force claim a decisive victory. The fighting on both sides was desperate, and the losses severe.

England.

TURKEY PROMISES REFORMS IN HER PROVINCES—RUSSIA TO SWALLOW KHOKAND.

LONDON, December 27.—A special from Vienna says Turkey has sent a circular to the Powers pledging herself to the execution of the reforms promised by the Sultan.

A Berlin dispatch says information has been received that the disorders in Northern Khokand will soon be made the occasion by Russia for the annexation of the remainder of that khanate.

THE CORN MARKETS.

LONDON, December 27.—The *Mark Lane Express*, in its regular weekly review of the corn market, says: "The large imports since the first of September kept prices down, but we cannot expect the imports to continue while rates are so low. The business in Europe is reasonably full and prices barely maintained. At Paris and several provincial markets, flour has again dropped a franc, and wheat a shilling and six pence. Belgium, Holland and Germany are shilling lower. Vienna is dropping, and Odessa dull, holders maintaining high prices."

RECORD.

Murders in Missouri and Kansas.

ST. LOUIS, December 23.—At Boonsboro, Howard county, Missouri, James Thorne quarrelled with a man named Mitchell, on Saturday last, and was struck by him on the head with a club and killed.

Near Junction City, Kansas, on Tuesday, George Hunter, colored, and George Davidson, white, had an altercation about their cattle, and Hunter shot and killed Davidson.

Suicide at Oscoda, Mich.

DETROIT, MICH., December 23.—J. Falbre, a well known lumber inspector of Oscoda, Mich., committed suicide to-day with a pistol. No cause is known for the act.

Confession of an Incendiary.

CHICAGO, December 23.—On the 13th of this month a man giving the name of Thomas Carroll, of Dunkirk, New York, confessed to officers here that in June, 1874, he set fire to Vanderwort's planing mill in Dunkirk. The mill was entirely destroyed, and the watchman, McCarthy, was so badly burned that he died shortly after. Carroll fled, and has been here for some time. When he confessed he was put in jail here, and examined by a physician, who pronounced him sane. The authorities of Dunkirk were telegraphed the state of the case, and substantiated the story of Carroll, whom they have sent for. He will accordingly leave for Dunkirk to-night in company with the Sheriff of that place. He has made two attempts to commit suicide since he was imprisoned.

Attempt to Break Jail at Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 23.—A number of prisoners confined in the city jail made an attempt to escape this morning. Several negroes who were confined in the rear part of the building had been committing depredations by breaking window glass, furniture, &c., and behaving badly in a general way. Last night several of them were placed in a cell to themselves, and all went quietly until about four o'clock this morning, when a loud howl was raised. Upon repairing to the scene the turnkey discovered that the rascals had set fire to the mattresses on which they had slept, with the evident purpose of making their escape by overpowering the jail official when he should open the door to let them out. The bedding burned rapidly, and in a few seconds the cell was dense with smoke and flame, almost suffocating the inmates within. The attendants obtained assistance as soon as possible, and rescued the negroes from their perilous position, but not until some of them were almost strangled to death with smoke. Some of the men were unable to stand when rescued, and a few minutes more would have settled their deaths. The prisoners, when taken away from the fire, were very willing to be locked up anywhere, and made no effort to escape.

Colored Man Shot at Cairo.

CAIRO, December 26.—Felix Alphonso Reno, a colored roustabout on the steamer Fannie Lewis, was shot to-day by another negro, name unknown, who escaped after the shooting. The trouble was over a game of cards. Reno's wounds are dangerous.

Suicide in Zanesville.

ZANESVILLE, O., December 27.—On Saturday night a man was seen to walk into the canal. A search was made all day yesterday and to-day until ten o'clock, when the body of an old citizen, named Samuel McCallister, was found. It was evident a case of suicide.

Fatal Combat with Burglars.

BOSTON, December 27.—Moses A. Wood, in a contest with two burglars, at his house in Cambridge, yesterday morning, was stabbed three times and shot in the abdomen. The burglars escaped, but left $2,000 worth of goods they had packed. Mr. Wood's injuries are believed to be fatal.

An Odd Verdict of a Coroner's Jury.

PROVIDENCE, December 27.—The coroner's jury in the case of the child killed in his mother's arms by the kick of his drunken father, in Westerly, returned a verdict that the person upon whom the father purchased the liquor which made him drunk was guilty of the murder of the child. Father Philip Gallagher, who sold the liquor, is on trial here in $1,000 to answer before the Supreme Court.

Homicide in Hamilton County, Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 27.—Richard Parseley was fatally shot by Jesse Hunt, near Fisher's Station, in Hamilton county, Friday afternoon. The parties were quarrelling about the result of a shooting match for a turkey.

Christmas Row in Louisville—Five Men Wounded.

LOUISVILLE, December 27.—During a row in an underground saloon early this morning, in which slugs from two pistols were engaged, five received wounds. The affair grew out of an old grudge of the two leaders, and terminated in a general fight, in which all present joined. Several pistols were discharged, and the room was filled with smoke. Two men were shot in the head, one in the breast, one in the leg and one in the arm. The wounds are not considered dangerous.

The Storm in Southern Ohio.

CINCINNATI, December 27.—Yesterday's storm did considerable damage at various points in Southern Ohio. At Catawba, Brown county, a new Methodist church was blown down. At Felicity, Clermont county, and in the neighborhood of Mc[illegible] ville stream are at flood height, and many fences, bridges and bridges [illegible] away.

Said to be in Havana.

HAVANA, December 3.—A report is current that William M. Treed arrived here last Tuesday on a schooner. Several New Yorkers who saw him say they will stay here for a few days and depart in different parts of the city.

Wealth of the Northern Mexico Mines.

The wealth of the mining interests of Northern Mexico is incalculable and estimates are rather under than over the truth. The principal mineral products are gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, quicksilver, bismuth, nickel and antimony. Of these there are prodigious deposits, that await only the application of capital and science to be procured for the world's use. The authorities for these statements do not go so far as to say that there is a formation as peculiarly characteristic as the Comstock lode, but there is a belief, which rests upon a rich beyond a limit of doubt, that such a formation does exist through the Sierra Madre. He says that experience no longer leaves room for speculation, but has been found that in consequence of the paying ores over Mexican mines to a depth of a thousand ft., and at most for ten thousand at the Comstock in last worked for generations, the Mexican mines possess the advantage that they are located in a region where the forest that extends from the heart of an immense [illegible] miles north and south and 300 miles east and west, as the timber supply for smelting, the mountain streams [illegible] with the expense of every gorge down to the plains, a distance of [illegible] miles, a lack of transportation facilities appears to be the main cause of the non-development of these valuable [illegible] but this defect will soon be remedied, and back will soon be running [illegible]

AUTHORITY FOR THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

A Sermon by the Rev. A. M. Milligan, of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

The Rev. A. M. Milligan, pastor of the Eighth Street Reformed Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, preached on the Sabbath question, last evening, to a very large congregation. He presented the orthodox view of the subject, and we subjoin a report of the sermon:

Text—Heb. iv, 9. There remaineth therefore a rest (original keeping of a Sabbath) to the people of God."

The question before us to-night has evoked considerable discussion and demands a careful, candid investigation. Conscientious men desire to know whether or not God requires of them the setting apart to His service of one-seventh part of their time. I invite you to a calm, unprejudiced examination of the question. Is there any authority for the Christian Sabbath? Three points demand investigation:

I. Was the original institution of the Sabbath Jewish and temporary, or was it universal and permanent?

II. Did Christ abrogate the law of the Sabbath?

III. Is there authority for the change from the seventh to first day of the week?

I. The original Sabbath was a universal and permanent institution, and not Jewish. This is manifest from the fact that it was instituted twenty-five hundred years before the constitution of the Jewish Commonwealth, and two thousand years before the days of Abraham. It was instituted at the close of creation. As soon as the primogenitor of our race was created, God gave him a Sabbath. Adam was the first of creation work formed near the close of the sixth day. The first day that he ever spent on earth was the Sabbath. "God rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made, and God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it." Thus in God set apart the day, to holy rest, and constituted it a blessing to the human race. Genesis ii, 3. It would give us the first day of the week—the day that Christ rested, and the day He met with His disciples.

2. My third argument is that on this day Paul ordered the Galilians and the Corinthians to make collections for the saints, 1 Cor. 16, 1, 2. "Now concerning the collections for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, so also do ye, upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." It was the custom of the Jews to take up their collections in the synagogues every Sabbath. Paul directs the Christians of Galilatia and Corinth to take up their collections on their Sabbath, and in connection with their religious exercises.

4. My last argument is the declaration of John, Rev. 1, 10, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day."

This term was more used to designate the seventh day of the week, than the first day of the week, than to the day in which the Lord arose from the dead, appeared to His disciples and poured out the Holy Spirit on them. The Sabbath disciples but a few fixtures are required, yet it takes much labor; the labor we employ is generally of so poor a quality and yet so expensive to hire, that the less we necessarily employ, the more successful will be our farm operations. I have formerly given directions in considerable extent, and have concluded that it is considered a saving because it is fed in less quantities and with more regularity. Now, when a farmer is convinced that he can make a saving without extra cost by adopting a different method from the one he has generally followed, he is not very slow to try the experiment.

With these preliminaries Mr. Ellsworth proceeds to give in detail his system of winter feeding, which is as follows:

The poorest quality of fodder that I wish to feed is giving first, at the beginning of each meal, and in the morning, while the cows are eating this foddering I commence to milk. By the time they have this two-thirds eaten another foddering is given them of a better quality, and then the third, which consists of the best hay which I intend to feed, is giving as before, or just previous to the finishing of the second foddering. By feeding in this way the cows are kept constantly eating, and will consume all that is placed before them, leaving nothing eatable in their manger. I then sweep out and put on the cows' meal, &c., which are given immediately. Then commence to water by letting out only a few at a time and seeing that all have a chance to drink, thus allowing little or no time between eating and drinking. The stables is then cleaned, and they are returned as soon as they have drank. They have nothing more to eat until the afternoon meal, which is commenced at about half-past two o'clock, by feeding, watering, &c., the same as in the morning, with the exception of the roots and meal, which are all given at one time, and that in the morning. I milk at night after watering. Nothing is fed after watering, either morning or evening.

By this method the cow has had two good meals, has drank twice and has at least sixteen hours out of the twenty-four in which to rest and quietly chew her cud. A stock of cows thus tended will eat one-half coarse or poor quality of fodder, with the rest of good hay and a very little grain, and keep in good condition, and will give at the same time a good flow of milk. When I have plenty of hay and rowen I feed very little grain, but now, since we have had a shortage of hay, I use more meal. For a milch cow I feed one quart of Indian and one quart of cotton seed meal and two quarts of roots, with all the hay they want. This will make a good flow of milk without doing injury in any manner to the cow. But if my object is to make beef and milk at the same time, I increase the Indian meal according to the size and capacity of the cow.

The point for us to settle here is, whether the cow is better off for having food three hours, or to wait six, until she has finished chewing her cud, before she is fed again. I believe that she is better off not to have any food of consequence to her between the morning and afternoon meals. If a man, now feeding a cow six pounds of the best hay and two quarts of meal three times a day in a week, will feed the same amount in two meals, or nine pounds of hay and three quarts of meal dry, at a time, giving what water the cow will drink directly after eating, digested the trial for two weeks, he will be able to decide for himself whether two meals is as good or better for the cow than three.

A long experience, with a careful study of the wants and habits of the dairy cow, has convinced me that she will consume the same amount of fodder in less time, will drink more, and be better filled up, keep in better condition, with less care, and give more milk than when fed three times.

The idea that a cow needs only two meals a day during the winter season, or as long as she is kept upon hay or other dried fodder, notwithstanding the fact that she will eat much oftener when obtaining her living by herself in the pasture, may appear to the casual observer to be contradictory to itself, but on a closer investigation, we shall notice a rational, and, I believe, satisfactory reason for it. Of all the elements of which grass is composed, by far the larger part is water, which must render it much more bulky than an equal amount of hay. And for this reason more is required to supply the wants of the system. During the season, therefore, when the cow must live by her own exertions, she must have most of the time to obtain the requisite amount of nourishment, which she is not required to do while in the barn. We must not forget also, that pastures in general are kept down so close during the greater part of the summer, that rarely to continual labor can her wants be supplied.

TURNIP TOPS FOR COWS.

Objections are sometimes made to the fe

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1876.

THERE has been a noticeable falling off in emigration in England this year. Last month there was a decrease of 2,337, and a decrease in the year ending with November of 32,711.

THE grain exports from Philadelphia last week were 180,066 bushels. Vessels are now in port to load with 255,200 bushels. The total grain exports during the year amount to 7,567,395 bushels.

NEVER has there been a stronger argument to show the necessity of the continued national ascendancy of the Republican party as is to be found in the vehement disclaimers of the Democrats that their party is committed to the payment of rebel pensions and claims for emancipated slaves. Why do they consider it necessary to enter these oft-repeated denials?

THE principal internal revenue taxes are collected on distilled and fermented liquors, cigars, tobacco, rectifiers and wholesale and retail liquor dealers; and the Chicago papers boast that the collection district which embraces that city pays nearly double the amount that is paid by all the New England States. And defrauds the Government out of more than it pays—should be added, to complete the picture.

THE Newport (R. I.) priest who refused the rites of burial to a child because its parents had sent it, when alive, to a public school, has been compelled to yield. The Bishop of Rhode Island has informed the father of the child that it can be buried at any time by making application to the proper authorities. The strength of public opinion has been demonstrated by the changed action which it has brought about in this case.

THE foreign commerce of New York last week was: General merchandise imports, $2,372,533; produce exports, $6,286,600, and specie exports, $293,785. The total imports of merchandise during the year amount to $313,236,063 against $380,355,233 for the corresponding period in 1874. The total exports of produce since January first are $251,201,497 against $281,672,623 in 1874, and the total exports of specie during the year have been $67,768,066 against $60,638,804 in 1874.

THE Democrats are not feeling nearly so happy over their anti-third term resolution in Congress as they were. On looking the matter over they begin to see that it was a big blunder on their part, since it has despoiled them of their ammunition. On the other hand, the Republican leaders are glad that the vote was taken, since no sane man can now charge any third term purpose on the Republican party. By pressing a vote on the subject, the opposition has been hoist with its own petard.

ANOTHER State has been heard from. New Jersey, under Democratic rule, is fast sinking into the slough of bankruptcy. Before the war that State owned so many stocks and bonds that the income thereof paid all the running expenses of the machine. Now they are being sold to meet the current expenses. In 1873 the Treasurer disposed of $350,000, and in 1874 of $410,000 of these assets. In 1800 the expenses, ordinary and extraordinary, of the State were $200,993 44. In 1875 they are $1,618,416 54.

ACCORDING to a tabular exhibit of the trade and manufactures of Cincinnati, published in the *Times* of that city, the business depression of the year, so loudly clamored over during the late Ohio campaign, turns out to have been greatly exaggerated. The total imports for the commercial year, ending August 31, 1875, were $311,072,639, and exports, $201,404,823, against $331,777,055 imports, and $221,536,852 exports for the year preceding. This shows a considerably better state of affairs than was anticipated. The statement with regard to manufactures is still more encouraging, showing not only a complete recovery from the panic of 1873, but an excess over any year of the city's history. The iron industry shows by far the greatest depression, as it does in every other part of the world.

THE United States appears to be exerting quite a salutary and beneficent influence in Egypt, through the agency of her military officers now serving in that country. They have inaugurated a system of schools to meet the wants of the rank and file of the Egyptian army, and it is reported to be working admirably. When the American officers took command not over two per cent. of the army could either read or write. Now the figures are so cheerfully changed. There has also been a school organized for training boys in military tactics, and schooling them in all of the essential branches of a liberal education. The Khedive is so well pleased with these results that he is now erecting a seminary for the education of girls, at Cairo, which will accommodate upwards of a thousand students.

THE latest intelligence from Japan is to the effect that the people of all classes are intensely anxious for the spread of education. New schools are opening and educational movements are made by individuals as almost daily. Proofs of the great capability of the Japanese for intellectual culture multiply constantly. Two young Japanese recently took their degree as "Doctors of Philosophy," with reference to political economy, at the University of Heidelberg. Their first studies were in this country, whence they went to Germany. They at first asked to be excused from examination in Latin; but this was not granted, and they succeeded within a few months in mastering the Latin grammar. They were examined in public by a well-known authority, and their doctor degree was conferred upon them with honors. Young Japan is evidently coming to the front.

A UTAH correspondent of the New York *Post* says that if the United States Supreme Court should sustain the decision of Judge WHITE in the case of the chief secretary of BRIGHAM YOUNG, convicted of polygamy, the Mormons are prepared to submit to the law, although they will still consider it unjust as being at variance with divine revelation. Whatever they may think about it is no concern of ours, however, so long as they discontinue the objectionable practice. "Singular as it may seem, the Mormons insist that all laws placing a restraint on the practice of polygamy are unconstitutional. They found this theory upon an article in the treaty of GUADALOUPE HIDALGO, guaranteeing to all inhabitants of territory thereby acquired from Mexico the free exercise of their religion. The Mormons were in Utah at the time of that treaty, and this clause, they claim, clearly embraces their case.

UNDER Republican administration the Ohio penitentiary was not only a self-sustaining institution, but an actual source of profit to the State. During the seven years of Republican management, beginning with November 1, 1866, and closing with October 31, 1873, the earnings of the prison over all expenses, including purchase of new ground, building of new chapel, mill and shops, with furniture and machinery therefor, were $58,613 32. With Democrats at the helm it has been vastly different. The report of the directors and warden of the prison, just published, shows an apparent excess of earnings over expenditures, in 1875, of $20,335 49; but a closer scrutiny reveals the fact that the expenditures have exceeded the receipts by $55,492 26. This is in keeping with Democratic promises of "economy." They are magnificent promisers, but fall miserably in performance.

EIGHT States have taken a census this year, and the result, as compared with 1870, stands thus:

States.	1870.	1875.	Inc.
Kansas	364,399	533,373	168,784
Louisiana	726,915	857,639	130,124
Massachusetts	1,457,351	1,651,902	191,551
Michigan	1,184,059	1,344,031	159,792
New Hampshire	318,300	346,872	126,466
New York	4,382,759	4,705,208	322,449
Rhode Island	217,353	258,239	40,886
South Carolina	705,606	727,447	217,841
Total	9,544,338	11,220,741	1,355,393

The increase in South Carolina is suspicious and, like that in New York, was probably cooked up. The object of a fraud in the New York figures was to give the Hon. Gov. Neal York and Brooklyn an increase in the State Legislature, the gain being credited mainly to those cities; and it is probable that there was a similar purpose in South Carolina. There has been no special cause for a large increase of population in either State, and grave suspicions in both are based on the other hand, the Republican leaders the unprecedented increase in

TAXING CHURCH PROPERTY.

The New York *Tribune* has interviewed many prominent clergymen of various denominations upon the subject of taxing church property since the President's message appeared, and the interviews reveal a wide diversity of opinion. It is generally admitted that what are known as liberal Christians are in favor of the taxation of church property. The liberal churches, however, hold but a small part of such property, and therefore cannot be expected to have such interested opinions as some others. JAMES PARTON probably expresses the sentiment of the liberalists when he says, "I am opposed to all exemptions. Whatever property the State protects ought, I think, to contribute its proportion to the State's support." Rev. Dr. CURRY, editor of the *Christian Advocate*, agrees in the main with the President's views, although he would exempt church edifices from the list of taxed property. Rev. Dr. ARMITAGE, of New York, Baptist, questions the right of Congress to interfere in the matter in any way. He is, however, quite decided that it is beyond the jurisdiction of Congress to "require" the States to tax church property. He does not doubt the right of each State, of its own will, to tax church property within its borders. As Dr. ARMITAGE favors "the taxation of all church property except cemeteries, houses of public worship and such church institutions as are not run for a fiscal revenue and tend to diminish pauperism by caring for persons who otherwise would be thrown upon the public for support," it is clear he would contribute to pay a revenue to the Government. His exceptions far outweigh the rule. Prominent Roman Catholic clergymen regard the President's recommendation as an anti-Catholic movement; and that denomination may be set down as utterly opposed to the scheme.

The Troy *Times*, commenting on the opinions thus expressed, says:

"It is evident that should an attempt be made to include church property within the bounds of taxable property, the majority of all denominations, except the Roman Catholics, would favor it, or, at any rate, interpose no decided objection. The diversity of views held by representative men of the various denominations is a guarantee of this."

There is an easy way to settle all doubts as to the state of public sentiment on this question, and that is to try the experiment, in any of the State Legislatures, of repealing the State laws exempting church property from taxation. It was tried, once, in the Pennsylvania Legislature, and scarcely any one could be got to favor it and we venture to predict that no existing State Legislature can be brought up to the mark of repealing the exemption. If any one has doubts upon the subject they can easily be solved by bringing the matter up for legislative consideration.

There is scarcely a church outside of the cities that does not have hard work to pay its preacher and its current expenses; and to add to that difficulty the burden of taxation on church property would simply be imposing a load that many churches could not bear. It is to be presumed that legislators, as a general rule, are familiar with this fact; and it is very certain, in our judgment, that it would be impossible to bring the average member of the Legislature up to the task of imposing a tax that would be sure to render him odious. But we have no objection to any one trying the experiment.

DEBT.

We have pointed out, frequently, the evils which have resulted to people in our various classes of municipalities from debt. In our judgment, debt is the cause of all the extravagance and corruption which has tainted nearly every large municipal corporation in the land, and the way out of these evils is the way out of debt and the facilities for contracting it.

And what is true of municipalities is true also of individuals. The one grand cause of our present commercial suffering and stagnation in trade is debt. In the flush times that preceded the panic of 1873 it was the easiest thing in the world to run in debt—to mortgage your house and lot or your farm; or to give your note for any purpose whatever; and the great difficulty since then, has been and is, how to get rid of the burdens so thoughtlessly taken on

THE RATE OF INTEREST.

One of the strongest arguments used by the inflationists during the last political campaign was the fact cited by them of the high rate of interest still exacted from borrowers. While money on call was a mere drug in New York and at other money centers, and the banks were overflowing with unused money, the needy borrowers who could not put up first-class collaterals, were still compelled to pay exorbitant rates of interest.

These high rates became established when money was plenty and times were easy; and when times grew hard, the necessities of borrowers compelled them to pay whatever lenders chose to exact. In the cases of many who have failed within the year just closing, the assets which would have afforded a good dividend to creditors in 1873, have been since used up in trying to avoid bankruptcy by paying high rates of interest. The usurers have thus got what should have gone to the creditors had that been yielded to in 1873 which in 1875 has proved inevitable.

We do not mean to engage in any warfare upon money lenders, nor to indulge in any reflection upon those who choose to invest their means in the purchase of evidences of debt; but we feel justified in submitting to all who are engaged in such business whether the time has not come for reduced rates of interest? This is not a question personally addressed to particular individuals, but a question of general interest for general consideration, involving the business prosperity of all who are engaged in manufacturing or commercial pursuits. And it is a question which cannot be shirked. It is pressing now for consideration, and it is one that must be met.

The prices of everything else are coming down to the old basis very fast, and why should not the price of money keep pace with the general reduction? The prices of labor, of iron, of the necessaries of life, and of all the products of human industry, are tending rapidly to the standard which prevailed prior to 1861, and the general cry is that we must get down to "hardpan" before the shrinkage ceases and before the recuperation begins. But why should everything else get down to "hardpan" but money? We venture to predict that there will be no general recovery from the present depression until money, like everything else, has got down to its normal and real value.

We have heard of instances where new mortgages have been negotiated at six per cent. to take up old mortgages at ten per cent., and we have been glad to note this willingness to come down to the legal rate, even if it be but partial. Many a man can afford to pay six per cent. who cannot afford to pay eight and ten; and such has been the shrinkage in values, and in the profits of trade that it is unwise to expect that men who, in flush times, were able to pay high rates for money, can now afford to continue their payment. The times have changed; trade has changed; the rate of compensation has changed; and the rate for the use of money should adapt itself to these changes. The man who was owed two dollars a day by his labor, a few years ago, can now earn but one; the merchant who made twenty per cent. on his sales has now to be content with five; and the manufacturer who was wont to reap a high rate of profit on his goods is now satisfied, in many cases, to sell his wares at cost.

If, therefore, the borrowers are compelled to accept of less profit on what they make or sell, the lenders must be content to accept of a corresponding rate for what they lend. Otherwise borrowers must cease to be borrowers. Men will not long continue to pay out of their gains for the use and as great a folly as it ever was to kill the goose that lays the golden egg. We must all get down to the same common level in business affairs, and the change for the better will not come until we do.

We repeat that all we have here said is strictly impersonal, and incapable of any special application. It is intended to be general in its application and effect. If labor must come down, rents and other charges must also come down, and if trade is to recuperate, the burdens upon trade must be lessened. Money lenders must learn to be satisfied with less profits. They may prosper, for awhile, upon the misfortunes of the community; but their permanent prosperity depends upon the general properity of the community in which they operate.

We will not press this matter further just now; but it is time that public attention should be directed to it, and we have done our duty, for the present, in suggesting it for public consideration.

BISHOP HAVEN is as prominent an example of the folly of letter-writing as of the absurdity sometimes practiced in speech-making. Not content with his blundering in the speech to the Boston preachers' meeting, he has since written a letter to the *Independent*, in which he undertakes to speak authoritatively as to the purposes of the Almighty. After writing of what he considers HENRY WILSON'S mistake in not rallying to the support of GRANT for a third term, he says:

"Chase and Greeley and Sumner and Wilson are towering warnings to the American people how they consider the work of renewing the land accomplished, and set themselves against him whom God hath selected for this renewal. * * * Had Wilson thrown his mighty influence on the side of the President; had he cordially supported the reconstruction measures still needed to insure liberty and safety to our land and to the late and not yet freed slave; had he helped to pass the 'Force bill' and the Education bill and the Marriage bill, and other bills necessary to secure rights to all, he would have been alive to day. But he put himself against those demands of God at the hour; and was not, for God took him."

If this meddling Bishop, who seems to be paying much more attention to the Presidential nomination than to his episcopal duties, can show the world where he gets his authority to speak thus of the hidden purposes of the Almighty, he will have some claim to be believed; but not otherwise. We have seen no evidence, yet, that the President is the LORD'S anointed, and until we do, we cannot permit a fanatic like HAVEN to assume that fact as conceded.

It is time that such nonsense and impiety were properly rebuked. The Bishop transcends the limits of all propriety when he constitutes himself the interpreter of the inscrutable ways and presumes to threaten divine vengeance upon all who differ from him about a political nomination. Who made him a judge over us? And by what right does he presume to hurl the thunders of JUPITER at the politicians who disappoint him? He has plainly mistaken his mission; and if he persists in this folly will do much more injury to the cause of religion than he can possibly do good in politics.

HOWEVER successfully advancing civilization treats other social questions, the problem of crime seems to be almost as difficult of solution as ever. The annual report of the Board of Police Justices of New York city for the year ending November 1, just published, shows the total number of cases disposed of by the police magistrates during that period to have been 94,399, of which more than two-thirds were those of males. The number of arrests was almost one to twelve of the entire population of the city. Of these, arrests on charge of grand larceny largely preponderated. Burglary comes next in order of numbers, and larceny from the person ranks third, while felonious assault stands fourth. The greatest number of offenders were drunkards, of whom 36,061 were males and 10,786 females, and 11,305 females. The Board says it is estimated that these other cases, which are directly and indirectly due to the use of intoxicating liquors, constitute from seventy to ninety per cent. of the business done at the police courts. It has and furnished the heaviest proportion of persons arraigned when the offense was intoxication and disorderly conduct, but felonies, misdemeanors, and even vagrancy, the figures show the native Americans to be ahead.

THE exporting countries would seem to have forced wheat on England faster than was needed, resulting in a marked depression of value. In addition to the activity displayed by this country in sending forward its surplus stock of wheat of the crop of 1874 during last July and August, Russia, Australia, France and even India rushed forward all they could spare and built the imports into Great Britain were for the months of September, October and November, among the largest in the history of the trade. It is evident, therefore, that there will be little or no improvement in prices over there until some of the vast amount of wheat which they have been obliged to put in granaries is somewhat reduced. This, of course, will take some time, as their imports are now more than their immediate requirements. It has been a surprise to the English themselves to see so much wheat entering their country from Russia, whom they supposed at one time would be crying aloud for bread before next harvest.

POLITICAL.

State.

The Butler *Herald*, Uncle Jake Zeigler's paper, says: Mr. Randall secured the appointment of Fletcher, of Philadelphia, as Superintendent of the Folding Department in Congress, and Mr. Clymer obtained for Mr. Ancona, a former member of Congress from Berks county, a clerkship. What the other members from Pennsylvania obtained, we do not know, but presume they will be accommodated with appointments down among the mucilage bottles and paste pots in the basement.

General.

Tweed, though absent, is a millstone fastened to Tilden's neck. It does go hard with the wicked in this world.

The Boston newspapers are very anxious that the next Republican National Convention shall be held in Faneuil Hall.

There is a close and animated contest in the Wyoming Legislature over a bill repealing the act establishing women suffrage in that Territory.

The New York *Herald* says the House Democrats are now acting in the play, "Small Men in Great Parts; or, Talents to the Rear." We doubt if Talents has been engaged this season.

Southern journals profess themselves more than satisfied with the representation given to the South on the standing committees of the House of Representatives, and the Richmond *Inquirer* even goes so far as to say: "In this, indeed, we fear the Speaker has gone a little too far."

According to the Washington correspondent of the Springfield *Republican*, a prominent Democrat says that he does not expect his party to take positive ground on anything in Congress. It will endeavor to cripple the Administration as much as possible, and discuss issues like that relating to the currency.

The Hartford, Conn., *Evening Post* thinks it reasonable that Representative W. H. Barnum, of Connecticut, the noted Congressional absentee, should find a place on the Committee of Foreign Affairs, since he has heretofore manifested so little interest in the affairs of his own country.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* notes that before the Christmas holiday recess, at the last session, several of the appropriation bills had been introduced into the House, and two of them had passed that body and been sent to the Senate. This year the only bill yet passed is one extending the duration of the Alabama Claims Court for six months, a matter about which there was no difference of opinion.

A correspondent of the Worcester (Mass) *Spy* (Rep.), writing from the Democratic stronghold of Louisville, Ky., says that the desire of both the Democrats and Republicans of that city for the nomination of Secretary Bristow for the Presidency is almost universal, and that his popularity in the State is such that his political antecedents and principles would not prevent it from giving him its electoral vote.

The Boston *Pilot*, which is perhaps the leading Roman Catholic journal of this country, reads the Democrats of that city a flush times that preceded the panic of 1873 it was the easiest thing in the world to run in debt—to mortgage your house and lot or your farm; or to give your note for any purpose whatever; and the great difficulty since then, has been and is, how to get rid of the burdens so thoughtlessly taken on

THE COMMERCIAL.

Words of Commendation from Exchanges.

[From the Butler Eagle.]

The COMMERCIAL is one of the best papers published in Pittsburgh.

[From the Forest County Republican.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is a staunch Republican paper, and is ably conducted.

[From the Waynesburg Independent.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is a live, enterprising newspaper, and a reliable market gazetteer.

[From the Sharon Herald.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is a first-class publication, and merits the great popularity it enjoys.

[From the Tyrone Herald.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is a high-toned Republican newspaper and stands in the front rank of journalism in Pennsylvania.

[From the Noble County (O.) Republican.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is the leading journal of Pittsburgh; a good family paper, with reliable market reports, and thoroughly Republican in politics.

[From the Hollidaysburg Register.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is one of the best *newspapers* published in this country, and one of the ablest Republican journals in the State. It merits the large circulation to which it has attained.

[From the Lebanon Courier.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is the leading paper of Western Pennsylvania, and is one of the best conducted journals in the country. It is particularly valuable to butchers, drovers and others in our locality for its excellent market reports.

[From the Lewisburg Chronicle.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is one of the most spirited, reliable and excellent papers in Pennsylvania. Politically, it is unswervingly Republican. Its commercial and news departments are unsurpassed by any paper in the State.

[From the Lancaster Inquirer.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is one of the ablest Republican dailies in the country, and always filled with entertaining matter. To one who wishes to keep posted in political affairs, State and national, the COMMERCIAL is indispensible.

[From the Altoona Sun.]

While we can seldom agree with the COMMERCIAL politically, we recognize the fact that it is one of the very best *newspapers* published in the State. Those desiring a Pittsburgh paper, daily or weekly, will find it always up with the times in the way of late news.

[From the Belmont (O.) Chronicle.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is a dashing, live journal, devoted especially to the manufacturing and agricultural interests of the country, and to furnishing full and accurate commercial reports from the great trade centers. As a political and news journal it always has the latest and most reliable news, and is a steady and fearless advocate of Republican principles, keeping in the front rank in the support of an honest party policy. We commend to our readers as among the best family papers published in the West.

[From the Sharpsville Advertiser.]

Those who desire to keep posted on the events of the day should take the Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL, daily or weekly. As a first-class newspaper, it stands at the head of the list in the Middle States, and is eagerly sought after by the farmer, manufacturer, merchant and business men generally, on account of its completeness and reliability of its market reports. As a political journal it represents the true principles of the Republican party, and is opposed to all such unjust schemes as third term nonsense. There is no daily paper that we can so heartily recommend to the public as the COMMERCIAL.

[From the Easton Free Press.]

Among the prominent Western journals we find none more fresh and enterprising than the Pittsburgh DAILY COMMERCIAL. It is a large, thirty-six column sheet, a mirror of the times and condensed history of the age, giving full and reliable accounts of events at home and abroad. Its market reports in the various lines of trade interests are the best to be found, and therefore of incalculable value to our Eastern merchants and others interested. The subscription price is $6 per annum in advance, including postage, and the present is the best season to subscribe and secure a paper alike valuable to the merchant, farmer, mechanic, the manufacturer and the family.

[From the Blair County Radical.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL will enter the Centennial year strengthened and improved in all its departments. For the last twelve years it has been regarded as the leading newspaper in the State—leading in the crispness, incisiveness and fairness of its editorials; in the fullness, reliability and minuteness of its telegraphic from all parts of the country; in the completeness and accuracy of its market reports; in the fullness and reasonableness of its city, County and doings of Congress and the Legislature, and in the freshness and comprehensiveness of its miscellaneous news and reading matter. In all these excellencies it has made arrangements for the fullest and most complete daily reports and letters from Philadelphia during the Centennial Exposition, and, hence, will be next year more than ever a complete mirror of the times in which it is issued. Besides the daily, it issues a large nine-column weekly, filled with a carefully selected *resumé* of the news of the week, together with valuable agricultural, scientific and historical matter reading suited for the family circle as well as for the business man, the artisan and the general reader. In politics it is reliably Republican and will fairly discuss the attempt to force upon the party the support of the third-term monstrosity, and will in the future, as in the past, strive to purify the party from all corruptionists and, hence, will fearlessly expose fraud and rascality in the Government wherever it may find it. As a newspaper, it is emphatically Pittsburgh and the interests of the State, arriving here fully eight hours ahead of the dailies of Philadelphia and New York, and containing all the news that they do and much more fresh and condensed later. As an evidence of its popularity we may state that its sales in this city exceed those of all the other dailies of Pittsburgh combined. Those of our readers who are about making their newspaper selection for the coming year should, for variety, have never seen the COMMERCIAL, send for specimen copies at once, which will be forwarded free.

STONED TO DEATH.

The Head Blown to Pieces in the Market Place and the Body Burned.

The details of the recent terrible murder of a Jew in Hamadan (Ekbatana of the ancients), in Persia, have been received. A wealthy Persian owed a large sum of money to the Rat bi Chajim, who asked the Persian to repay him one day when they chanced to meet in a bazaar. A quarrel ensued, and the crowd which had collected asked the Persian what the case of the trouble was. He determined to get rid of his creditor, and, turning to the crowd, said, "If this man had merely insulted me I should have kept silent, but he has abused our religion and blasphemed the prophets. I cannot, therefore, be silent." The crowd fell upon the Rabbi and threatened to kill him. He took refuge in the neighboring house of the Persian, to whom he appealed for protection. The latter conceded the Jew in an inner room and barred the doors of the house. The crowd demanded its surrender. The fire was refused, and the doors were broken down. The lawless rabble poured in, found the fugitive, dragged him into the street and stoned him to death. The dead body was then taken about the town with jeers and finally brought into the market place, where the mouth was filled with powder and the head was blown to pieces. A fire was then kindled and the corpse was burned up. Four Jews, who had fallen into the hands of the mob, were ill-treated and severely wounded. The dwellings of the Israelites were plundered, and a general massacre of all the Jews—and Christians likewise—would have followed had not the authorities intervened.

THE BLACK HILLS.

Status of Affairs Among the Prospectors

When Gen. Crook told the miners in the Black Hills, last July, to "git up and git," they "cached," their tools and implements, that is to say, they buried them, and left to await the result of the negotiations of "the Black Hills Commission" with the Indians. The negotiations of that Commission came to naught. The Commissioners were disgusted with the Indians, everybody was disgusted with the Government, particularly the miners, but those adventurous spirits who had gone there and staked off a claim, and thought it of value, were not to be thus easily deprived of it. "Injun talk" did not deter them; they very quietly wended their way back again, and to-day there are one thousand white men at work in the Black Hills, and probably at work, too, in mining their claims. Freight is being carried regularly from Cheyenne to Custer City at five cents per pound, and a stage line has been established at fifteen dollars each; and unless the Government interferes very soon, spring will see the Black Hills swarming with miners whose purposes are so very decided that "the Injun talk" will not avail to deter them from digging out gold.—*St. Louis Globe, 25th.*

The statistical returns of the various Methodist branches in this country show the following results in membership:

Methodist Episcopal	1,560,559
Methodist Episcopal South	715,365
Colored Methodist Episcopal Church	80,000
African Methodist Episcopal Church	200,000
African Methodist Episcopal Zion	225,000
Evangelical Association	95,253
United Brethren	131,850
Methodist Church	85,183
Methodist Protestant	54,319
American Wesleyan	20,000
Free Methodist	6,000
Primitive Methodists	2,800
Congregational Methodists	9,300
Total	3,173,329

The grand total of Methodists throughout the world is 4,189,105 members.

It is an ill freshet from which no good flows. The recent floods in British India have destroyed numerous snakes, and left holes in vast numbers. In two districts alone upward of twenty-five thousand were killed.

BROOKVILLE, PA.

Death of Dr. Hugh Dowling—A Dreary Christmas—How Holiday Feasts were Spoiled—Wholesale Raids on Poultry Coops—Close of Court—The Dominant Offense—"Greenhorn's" Letter—The "Commercial"—Dullness of the Lumber Business, and Its Effect on Trade in General—A Family Difficulty—Brass Band.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial

BROOKVILLE, PA., December 27, 1875.

Doctor Hugh Dowling, of this place, died this morning of dropsy of the heart. Dr. Dowling has been a resident of Brookville for thirty-three years, and was the last of the old practitioners of the place. He came here when the country was new and sparsely populated, and when long rides over bad roads without pay were the feasts to which medical men were invited. His rides frequently extended for thirty miles. I have known Dr. Dowling for twenty years, and was at one time associated with him in the practice of medicine; and I can say to his credit that I have never known him to be guilty of a dishonorable act toward a member of his profession, nor have I ever known him to turn any one from his door or refuse to render professional aid to any one on account of inability to pay. Men have lived and died who were possessed of more of this world's goods, and who have been honored with greater preferment by their fellow-citizens in shape of political positions, but no one has ever lived here and passed away who has rendered services more valuable and unrenumerated service; and although he leaves no monument in the shape of great palaces or gold and silver, his kind and unremitting attention to the suffering poor has engraved his name and memory on the hearts of thousands who will truly mourn his loss as that of a friend in need.

Christmas has been here and left us, as others have in former years; but take it altogether it was one of the most dreary Christmases ever celebrated in this county, owing partly to the stringency of the times, but more especially to the horrible condition of the roads and the inclemency of the weather. The churches have all had ceremonies suitable to the occasion. The Protestant churches generally had their Sabbath school anniversaries, while the Catholics, besides their usual ceremonies, had a church fair in progress.

As usual, there has been great havoc among the poultry, but very few of those who have invested in the article of late years had the pleasure to feast on them, as the midnight raiders depopulated almost every chicken and turkey coop in the town, and many a family who retired in the evening promising themselves a feast of fat things, found in the morning that good poultry as well as riches take unto themselves either wings and fly away or legs and run away. Your correspondent has reason to sympathize with the sufferers, as he is himself one of the twenty-five or thirty victims of these hen-roost robberies.

Court closed on last Friday evening, and, take it all in all, it is to be hoped we ne'er shall look upon its like again. Our corresponding friend "Greenhorn" said that nearly every offense under the criminal law was on the calendar, which was true, but that of violation of the seventh Commandment was the dominant one.

During the progress of court a number of occasions arose in which there was a crossing of swords between the disciples of Blackstone and Esculapius, and the contest waxed fierce and hot at times; but I believe, as a rule, Esculapius carried off the laurels, and his disciples strut around with feathers up like a sprucy game chicken.

The question as to the identity of the man who committed an assault and battery on John Patterson, alias Greenhorn, alias Patterson, has lost its significance here, as the inquiry now is, who is "Greenhorn," who gave such a graphic and life-like description of the locality in the Black Hills, and the epidemic in Perry township. I heard an ex-sheriff say the picture was not overdrawn, and that many a one in the audience breathed easier after the court had shown the line of demarcation, but he thought "Greenhorn" ought to be ashamed of himself to publish it to the world. I can only say that the article was one the crowd who so eagerly listened to the discourse, and on actual weight was fifty pounds lighter when the matter was over. If "Greenhorn" can be found he will be handed over to the tender mercy of the doctors for punishment; if they failin finding him, the punishment is to be visited on Col. Reed, of the *Commercial*.

The COMMERCIAL is as eagerly sought after here as ever, and there are double the number of that paper sold here than all the other dailies combined.

Our business men here are considerably cramped, in consequence of there being no sale for lumber, and business is consequently dull; but Brookville is not dead yet, but has a bright future before it, as we have great natural resources in the shape of coal, timber and agricultural lands. The present business men have the confidence of the people as honest men, and that everything should be done to assist them in their enterprises.

During the summer and autumn, a number of fine dwellings have been erected. Long & Pearsall, George Van Vleet and the Messrs. Black have done themselves and the town in the buildings which they have erected.

There was a mutiny in the Reed family a few days since, in regard to the Centennial. The family was too large in proportion to the funds for all to go, and the difficulty was to decide who should go and who stay at home. The old folks were about to settle it with the bootjack and broomstick, when Mike suggested that some one else had had better go this time, and dad go next time, and in case the girls remained single, he was to take them along. The old man and Mike's views were on a par, and he compromised on that basis.

The Brookville brass band appeared in a most gorgeous and beautiful new uniform, in which they paraded our streets on Christmas day. The band is composed of a fine-looking lot of young men, and whether gauged from their appearance or skill as musicians, we feel proud of them, and think they will compare favorably with any band in the country. A. P. H.

LOUISVILLE.

Another Denial of the Charges Against Secretary Bristow.

LOUISVILLE, December 27.—J. A. Cunningham, a whisky dealer of high standing in Louisville, publishes a card in the *Courier-Journal* regarding the charges of the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*, in which he says Gregg Fort and Wilcox fraudulent claims cases. There is but an unanimous conclusion reached, and that is that both claims should have been instantly rejected by the first clerk to whom they were passed for examination. Both clerks who made the preliminary examination in these cases admit that, had not the former been indorsed by Congressman Roderick R. Butler, of Tennessee, and the latter by ex-Congressman Negley, of Pennsylvania, they would have rejected the claims at once. The two prominent officers having stood as sponsors for them, their judgment was to a great extent warped by the earnest solicitation of those presenting the claims. The more these two claims are investigated the worse they look. The only excuse which is interposed is that the clerks of the Third Auditor's office in their blind zeal to do a favor, as they thought, to the Congressmen supporting the claims, have done positive injustice to the Government. Likewise the strong recommendation which will be made to break up this reprehensible practice of members of Congress appearing in the interest of any claim involving the payment of money.

It is believed here that for a long time business in the office of the Third Auditor has been conducted in a loose, if not criminal manner. It is not meant to impeach the integrity of the head of bureau. He is no doubt honest, and does best he can to administer the affairs of office. It is the routine of the business, however, with which he is not conversant with the routine of the business of such an important office should be, that depends too much on the judgment of his subordinates. He many times may, for reason, suffer their claims, as he undoubtedly has in the Gregg Fort and Witowski cases.

The Second Comptroller's office is said to have fallen into the pernicious habit of what was known as the Montana claims. Since then it has been under a cloud. Dr. Brodhead, the chief, has the confidence of the President, but not of the District of Columbia, for a year has been obliged to divide his business between the duties in the Treasury and the District. Both are responsible, and in bulk of business, but in respect to overwhem any one part. The sequel is that neither has been attended to. It is hinted, and the opinion of Secretary Bristow is based on the fact, that clerks in Brodhead's have either been paid money to pass, or money has been collected for it by an ex-member of the Board of Public Works, who, since retiring from that lucrative position, has been acting in the capacity of lobbyist and claim agent. The present system of the examination and payment of claims needs purification, if it is desired to avoid the appearance of any deviation.

PRESIDENTIAL RECEPTION.

The President will receive New Year's day, according to the usual custom.

RESISTANCE TO REVENUE OFFICERS IN MISSISSIPPI.

Collector Slaughter, of Mississippi, having reported to Commissioner Pratt that Deputy Collector Reed was prevented by armed bands discharging their duties, and that the posse of Summit, Pike county, had notified him to leave, as he and other peace officers could not protect him, the Secretary of War to furnish the necessary protection.

Suspension of Operation in the Wyoming Coal Region.

WILKESBARRE, PA., December 29.—There will be at least partial suspension in the Wyoming coal region, beginning early in January, a great amount of coal on hand, with continuance of mild weather is one reason for it, while another is necessary repairs be mines. Thousands will not be more than two or three weeks, and will extend to the entire coal operators in the valley.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 28, 1875.

Southern Democrats and the Army.

A prominent Southern Democratic Representative, speaking of the proposed reduction of the military force, remarked: "We could not conquer the army in the field, but we can fight it in Congress." This declaration expresses the animus of the Democrats in their desire to avenge the heroic achievements of the Union arms. A high official of the War Department said to-day that if the army was reduced, Congress would soon be compelled to restore it; but if they were determined on a reduction, they should designate specifically what arms of the service should be cut down, and "what officers should be dispensed with," as the War Department would be very reluctant to be intrusted with the details. In the former reductions of the army, this was imposed upon boards of army officers, and as their action had been the source of much dissatisfaction, all the officers would be very much indisposed to undertake any such unpleasant duty. If Congress would cut down the army, let it take the whole responsibility. The bill providing for the reduction of the army must come, not from the Committee on Appropriations, but from the Military Committee of the House, and as the Chairman is inimical to the army, it is not unlikely that a bill hostile to them may emanate from his committee. Should such a proposition cause general alarm on the subject, as the House must be guided in some degree by the opinion of the President and the Secretary of War, those officers are of the opinion that the proposed reduction would be detrimental to the public service. It is admitted that perhaps a considerable reduction may be made in the different items of appropriations under the War Department, but the opinion is general that it is not expedient to reduce the number of the military establishment. If the House should eventually pass a measure cutting down the army, it has to receive the sanction of the Senate. This is extremely improbable; but even in that event it has still to receive the signature of the President. Any measure levelled at the army would unquestionably meet the veto of the President. It may be thought that the House would not be able to accomplish its will by withholding the appropriations, but even in this respect it would be powerless. As long as the army remains, and the appropriations for its remains, both officers and men are entitled to their pay, whether the appropriation has been made or not. It has not only been thought by the accounting officers of the army, but has been judicially decided that in all such cases the parties have a valid claim against the Government. As for the army being used for political purposes, that was not the fault of the army; it had no alternative but to obey orders, and in reality the troops which had at times been used for what may be called political purposes formed but the merest insignificant fraction of the army. At this time, excluding the Department of Texas, where the troops are guarding the Mexican frontier, there are but 3,327 men of all arms of the service stationed in the South, with its numerous forts and extended coast line.

Ballot-Box Stuffing in the South.

The Attorney General has in his possession a number of letters and other documents showing the means employed by the Southern Democrats in stuffing ballot-boxes and intimidating Republican voters in the elections. It is now proposed to submit these with a report to Congress.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 29, 1875.

Subsidy for the Texas Pacific.

Representative Atkins, the second member of the Committee on Pacific Railroads, it is learned, has prepared a bill for the granting of a subsidy to the Texas Pacific Railroad. He proposes to introduce the bill soon after the reassembling of Congress. The bill provides for a Government guarantee of the bonds of the road, secured by the lands of the company. The sentiment of a large portion of the House inimical to the granting of subsidies to railroads, as already expressed in the action taken on the Texas Pacific proposition. This enterprise is one of particular importance to the South, and there are evidences of a proposed coalition of the friends of the Kansas and Kansas Pacific and the Texas Pacific, and perhaps other enterprises of a kindred character, to insure the passage of these measures.

The Specie Resumption Act.

It having been generally circulated that the Committee on Banking and Currency had agreed to recommend the repeal of the specie resumption act, it is only necessary to state that the committee has not as yet even held a meeting for organization. Mr. Cox, the Chairman, has been absent from the city since the Christmas adjournment.

Abolition of Navy Yards.

The free-trade Chairman of the House Committee on Naval Affairs proposes extensive reductions in the navy yard establishments, by the abolition of unimportant

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Dec. 29, 1875.

We have no important changes to note in the loan market to-day. There is a good demand for money, and with the right kind of security there is no difficulty in obtaining it at the ruling rates. The banks are taking fair lines of their regular customers at about nine per cent, and still have a surplus to purchase any choice notes and acceptances which may be offered in the outside market. The same degree of caution and discrimination is manifested as noticed before, and weak parties, or those largely extended, find it difficult to get money at any price; while those who can show that they have abundant means and require but little aid to enable them to bridge over their present necessities, find capitalists ready to extend a helping hand.

—The call for the report of the condition of the national banks on the 17th of this month has been received from the Comptroller, and we give with this issue some of those reports. In this connection we give as a matter of general interest the consolidated reports of the banks of the whole country, as given in their reports to the Comptroller on October 1, 1875.

Abstract of Reports made to the Comptroller of the Currency, showing the condition of the national banks in the United States, at the close of business on Friday, the 1st day of October, 1875:

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	$980,222,951 34
Overdrafts	4,458,483 06
U. S. bonds to secure circulation	370,211,700 00
U. S. bonds to secure deposits	14,097,200 00
U. S. bonds on hand	13,999,950 00
Other stocks, bonds & mortgages	35,893,005 15
Due from approved reserve ag'ts	85,701,259 82
Due from other national banks	47,028,739 18
Due from State banks & bankers	11,965,788 90
Real estate, furn. & fixtures	42,960,647 65
Current expenses and taxes paid	7,841,213 05
Premium paid	8,260,981 18
Checks and other cash items	32,778,872 03
Exchanges for Clearing House	75,142,863 45
Bills of other national banks	18,528,857 00
Fractional currency	2,593,681 78
Specie	8,050,329 73
Legal tender notes	76,463,731 00
U. S. certificates of deposit for legal tender notes	48,805,000 00
Five per cent. redemption fund with Treasurer	16,233,192 20
Due from Treasurer other than 5 per cent. fund	3,453,788 00
Aggregate	$1,882,209,307 62

LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	$ 504,829,793 00
Surplus fund	131,356,676 41
Undivided profits	82,361,352 36
National bank notes outstand'g	318,350,379 00
State bank notes outstanding	772,348 00
Dividends unpaid	4,095,534 90
Individual deposits	604,570,619 41
United States deposits	6,507,531 59
Deposits of United States disbursing officers	4,271,195 19
Due to other national banks	128,810,681 60
Due to State banks and bankers	34,919,126 00
Notes and bills rediscounted	5,254,453 66
Bills payable	6,590,234 43
Aggregate	$1,882,209,307 62

**Number of banks 2,087.*

The Comptroller calls attention to the fact that the amount of circulation outstanding on October 1, 1875, as shown by the books of his office, was $347,000 82, which amount includes the notes in circulation of banks which have failed, are in liquidation, and which have deposited legal tender notes under the act of June 20th, 1874. This discrepancy of $29,549,703 represent the amount of circulation of banks in liquidation not yet redeemed, and notes of existing banks held in their vaults unissued. The greater portion of this amount, judging from the figures furnished by the Comptroller in his last report, is made up of new notes issued and still in the hands of the banks, held in this shape to avoid the tax on circulation.

—A Washington dispatch states that the amount of national bank notes issued since November 1, under the act of June 14, 1874, is $1,761,280, and the amount of legal tenders retired under the same act, in consequence of the additional issue of bank notes, $1,409,024. In the same period the amount of legal tenders deposited by national banks for circulation retired is $2,987,206. The actual contraction in the circulating medium since November 1 to date is $2,635,050.

—In connection with the discussion which has been had in this city, concerning the bankrupt act, the following remarks by the New York *Journal of Commerce* on the same subject are of some interest:

In view of various troubles in arranging matters with people who will not pay their debts at any price, with compositions of 30 cents on the dollar, there has been some in favor but serious enough agitation toward getting the bankrupt law repealed. It has been suggested by an eminent legal firm, much experienced in this class of cases, that a committee of ten, consisting of two ex-registers in bankruptcy, six practising lawyers and two judges, such as, for example, Judge Blatchford and Lowell, might get together and frame some amendments to the statutes which would greatly simplify the procedure, lessen expenses and give creditors a little better chance of dealing with the matter yet in embryo. We hope shortly to be able to give more definite details of defects in the present practice and the proposed corrections.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 29, 1875.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:40	3:10
Gold	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup.	123½	123⅝				
U. S. 5-20's	120	120				
5-20's, 1865, new	120	120				
5-20's, 1867, registered	118⅛	118⅛				
5-20's, 1867	120	120				
5-20's, 1868	120	120				
10-40's	116⅛	116				
6's currency	126½	126½				
6's currency, 1895	127	127				
6's 5 per cents	113½	113½				
Western Union Tel.	73¾	73¾				
Quicksilver	17¾	17¾				
Pacific Mail	39¾	39¾	39½	39½	39½	39¾
Panama	125	125				
Adams Express	94½	94½				
Wells-Fargo Ex.	84¾	84¾				
American Ex.	61½	62				
United States Ex.	62	62				
New York Central	104½	104½				
Erie	16	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾
Michigan Central	90	90	90	90	90	90
Michigan Southern	90	90¼	90¼	90¼	90¼	90¼
Illinois Central				99¾	99¾	99¾
Cleve., & Pittsburgh				98	98	98
Chicago & Northw'n				39¾	39¾	39¾
Do preferred	86	86¼	86¼	86¼	86¼	86¼
Rock Island				104¼	104¼	104¾
St. Paul, common	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾
Do preferred	67½			68¾	68¾	68¾
Wabash, common				15¾	15¾	15¾
Fort Wayne	97					
Ohio & Mississippi	16	16¼		16¼	16¼	16¼
Union Pacific	73¾					
Ohio & Miss. 2d m.	80	80				
Hannibal & St. Jos.	20½			20½		20½
Hannibal & St. Jos. pref'd	35					35
Iron Mountain	14					14
Lake Shore	84¾	84¾				84¾
Central Pacific				114	114	114
South Carolinas, Ap.	19					
North Carolina, old						30
Missouri 6's				102¾		

It will be seen that the total cases for the present year are only twenty in excess of the total for 1873.

AMERICAN GENIUS.

Moody and Sankey.

The great revivalists, Messrs. Moody and Sankey, who electrified staid old England with their eloquence and enthusiasm, are fair samples of all true American genius. Springing from among the common people, their sympathies are alive to the wants of *the whole people*, and herein lies the secret of their great success. Those who seek to be popular must study and be familiar with the wants of the masses, and prove loyal thereto. To this fact we may trace the grand success in business, as well as in religious undertakings, which many Americans have achieved. Strikingly illustrative of these suggestions is that great establishment, located at Buffalo, N. Y., and known as the "World's Dispensary"—a most appropriate name, indeed, for the wonderful establishment within whose walls are manufactured remedies which are in demand in every quarter of the globe, and at which a corps of distinguished physicians are constantly, under the personal direction of Dr. Pierce, are constantly administering to the needs of thousands of sufferers everywhere, and whose success in the treatment of all forms of chronic ailments has become so well known that there is scarcely a hamlet in the land in which his name is not familiar. Its proprietor, says the *Herald and Torchlight*, of Detroit, "*is a man of the people*, writes for them, and to them tenders his eminent professional services." His advertisements are unique and sensational. Like the great revivalists, his enthusiasm is multiplied by the unparalleled success of his enterprise, as well as by the efficacy of his remedies in curing disease. *The people believe in him* and his remedies, because, as the New York *Tribune* says, "the sympathizes with the people in all their afflictions, efforts and attainments." Hence, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is to-day more largely employed as a blood and liver medicine, and also as a cough remedy, than any other remedial agent in the world. His Favorite Prescription, he does not recommend as a "cureall," as so often done by compounders of worthless, humbug nostrums, but for all diseases and weaknesses peculiar to women it has proved itself so much of a specific that it now enjoys great popularity and universal confidence. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets, "scarcely larger than mustard seed," have proved so agreeable and reliable as a cathartic that they are rapidly taking the place of the large, nauseous pills heretofore so much in use; while his Compound Extract of Smart-Weed is a favorite remedy for Colic, Cramps, Summer Complaint, Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Cholera and Cholera Morbus, and also as a liniment. Dr. Pierce's Catarrh Remedy, and Dr. Pierce's Nasal Douche, little need be said, as they are known everywhere as the greatest specifics for Catarrh and "cold in the head," ever given to the public. And besides this large measure of success, Dr. Pierce seems likely to achieve a great renown as an author, he has a physician, in his except COMMON SENSE MEDICAL ADVISER, a book of about 900 pages, which he sells at the unparalleled low price of $1 50, has already been sold to the extent of exhausting two editions amounting to forty thousand copies. The secret of Dr. Pierce's success, as well as that of the great revivalists, and scores of other Americans given by their genius have advanced step by step from obscurity to affluence and distinction, consists in treating the people with consideration, sympathy, candor and honesty. No *quack*, who hopes to attain either wealth or distinction, can *afford* to deal unfairly with the *world* or be indifferent to the wants and best interests of humanity.

MWF&*

Harlem ..... 130½ | Delaware & Lack. 123½
Del. & Hud. ..... 130½ | Atlantic & Pac. Tel. 18
Mich. Central ..... 88½ | Indiana Central .. 31½
Panama ..... 125 | Bunting'n & Quley. 123½
Lake Shore ..... 92½ | Hannibal & St. Joe. 20
Illinois Central ..... 97 | Union Pac. stock. 74
Cleve. & Pitts. ..... 98 | Union Pac. bonds. 109
Northwestern ..... 39½ | Union Pac. bonds, 1897 ..
Do preferred ..... 86½ | Denver & Rio Grande 56½
C. C. C. & I. ..... 90 | Dentral Pac. bonds 94
N. J. Central ..... 103½ |

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupon, 1881 ..... 123½ | New 5's 116½
5-20's, 1865 ..... 119½ | 10-40's registered .. 117½
5-20's, 1865, new ..... 120¼ | 10-40's coupons 117¾
5-20's, 1867 ..... 120¼ | Currency 6's 127½
5-20's, 1868 ..... 122¾ |

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old ..... 41½ | Virginia, new 83½
Tennessee, new ..... 39½ | Missouri 6's 102¾
Virginia, old ..... 40 |

LONDON, December 29 5 P. M.—The amount of bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance to-day was £295,000. The rate for money at the Stock Exchange on Government securities was 2¾ per cent. Consols for money and account 93 15-16. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 104; do 1867, 107; 10-40's 105¾; new 5's 105. Railroad securities—New York Central 96; Erie 16¾; do preferred 36.

PARIS, December 29.—Rentes 65 francs 80 centimes.

FRANKFORT, December 29.—United States bonds—New 5's, 99¾.

NEW ORLEANS, December 29.—Gold 113. Sight ¼ discount. Sterling—Commercial 542@543; bank 545@546.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY, December 29, 1875. }

The principal features of trade to-day showed no especial changes from those of the past week or ten days. The grain and provision commission lines were dull and lifeless, while groceries and provisions showed considerable activity, with a reduction in the quotations of the latter under the influence of the new crop which is now beginning to come more or less freely into market.

The New York *Journal of Commerce* makes the following remarks concerning the dry goods trade of that city, which in some respect are very applicable to the general trade situation:

No one, of course, expects to do anything the week's end to-day, but we may be very busy afterward. Much of the stuff purchased to-day is still held by first hands, subject to order. The goods have not entered into distribution, and buyers who at latest will have to pay for them sixty days from January 1 need not be expected to be over-anxious to increase their stocks for a while, and when they sell these goods they actually enter in a measure into competition with the commission agents. Then, pending export or specie payment, on the discovery of a private diamond mine in every householder's back yard, the mills may keep on grinding away, but the outcome is still less disastrous to produce at a loss than in the factory towns which they own as operators. Any medieval baron can throw their hands out of work and have to feed them all winter. He with them a choice of two evils—stop and soup, or go on and starve and the charity soup is in many ways the greater evil. Export is the only relief. It is no use to sing the dismal ditty of "overproduction." Hundreds of millions of our fellow creatures are naked or ill-fed for want of the products of our domestics, and we may just as well feed our own kinsfolk as the Hindoos. What matters it how and groan while industrious John Bull and other commercial foreigners enjoy all the profits of our sports.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last are as follows:

Articles.	Last week.	This week	Total
Flour, bbls	7,592	6,888	14,480
Apples, bbls	73	629	702
Potatoes, bbls	351	1,717	2,068
Corn, bus	9,228	12,448	21,676
Wheat, bus	4,170	5,200	9,370
Barley, bus	10,330	12,400	22,930
Rye, bus	208	1,720	1,928
Oats, bus	23,500	31,145	54,645
Butter, pkgs	319	385	704
Bacon, pcs	11,492	21,503	33,095
Bacon, lbs	179	499	678
Potatoes, bus	1,918	7,140	9,058
Hay, bales	4,483	4,510	8,993

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—Trade continued dull and apathetic to-day, with little change in quotations. Receipts are somewhat increased, which in the unsatisfactory state of the market has a slight tendency toward ease in prices. We quote: Michigan white wheat $1 30@1 40 ₱ bushel; Pennsylvania and Ohio do $1 38@1 35; Northwestern red $1 35@1 38; prime sound red winter $1 27 @1 29; low grade do $1 20@1 25; white corn $1 00@1 10, as to quality. Corn was in some demand and scarce, selling at 60c ₱ bushel for sale of 1 car new shelled at 55c. We quote new car at 48@56c for mixed; 51@54c for choice yellow; new shelled 54@55c; ear corn 48@50c, according to quality. Virginia and Maryland shellbarks are easy at $1 25@1 50 ₱ bushel; walnuts unchanged at $2 00@2 50 ₱ bushel; hazelnuts $3 50@4 00 ₱ bushel.

PEARS—There is a good demand, with choice California sealed prunes, 12@13c ₱ lb; common to prime do 9@11c; fair to prime fall do 7@8c; fancy grades do 20@21 cts.

POTATOES—The trade in round lots was unimportant, while from store the market was quiet at 35@40c for Peerless and Early Rose; 40@45c for prime peachblows. Sweets are in fair supply but easy market at 45@50c ₱ bushel.

POULTRY—The market was rather firm under the influence of the holiday demand. Quotations are rather nominal, transactions being largely confined to small lots. Live chickens are quoted at 4½@5c ₱ pair; live turkeys 75c@$1 25. Dressed poultry were active and firmer; chickens 12@13c ₱ lb; turkeys 14@16c; ducks 11@12c; Geese 9@10c.

VEGETABLES—Onions are in large stock, and dull. We quote at $1 15@1 20 ₱ barrel. Dried green peas are quoted at $1 65@1 75 ₱ bushel. Turnips 35@40c ₱ bushel; beets 45@ 50c ₱ bushel. Parsnips 60@70c ₱ bushel.

Provisions.

Trade continues steady, but under the influence of the marketing of a considerable amount of new meats, there is a general downward movement in quotations. We note reductions on hams, shoulders and sides of 1c ₱ lb, and the tendency is still downward. Under this general easing of values there is a tolerably fair demand, but the season is naturally one for light trade, there is a great improvement in the volume of business as compared with last year. Receipts continue liberal.

BACON—We quote shoulders at 10¼c ₱ lb; prices for sides are lower, the new crop being fairly in the market; clear rib sides 13¾c; clear sides 14c.

HAMS—We quote plain sugar-cured easy at 15¾c; sugar-cured shoulders 11½c; breakfast bacon is quoted at 16c; dried beef easy at 14¾c; beef tongues, per dozen, $7 00; ham sausage 10c.

MESS PORK—The market is easy but not quotably lower. We quote at $22 00 per bbl.

LARD—We quote prime lard refined, in tierces, ₱ lb 13¾@14c; half bbls do 14¼@14½c; in buckets, 14½@15c; in 3 lb caddies, 16c; in 5 lb caddies, 16½c; in 8 lb pails, 17½c; in 5 lb dozen 17½c; in 6 lb do, 17½c.

LARD OIL—The market is easy. We quote extra No. 1 lard oil, current make, $1 05 per gallon; No. 1 do, 90c; No. 2, 79c.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers' tallow at 10@ 10¼c; choice country rendered 9@9½c; medium do 7½@8c.

The table below shows the approximate number of hogs packed at the six leading packing points in the West, as shown by telegraph and latest mail dates and estimates since from November 1st to date, and comparisons with two preceding seasons:

	To Dec. 28, 1875.	To time in '74.	To time in '73.
Cincinnati	345,000	320,000	361,000
Chicago	745,000	910,000	950,000
St. Louis	170,000	225,000	320,000
Louisville	185,000	270,000	255,000
Milwaukee	90,000	150,000	170,000
Indianapolis	190,000	220,000	175,000
Total	1,725,000	2,165,000	2,310,000

Groceries.

There is a steady and moderately liberal movement in staple groceries at generally unchanged values. Coffee is rather easy under the influence of a weak market in the East. The *Bulletin* reviews the seaboard market for Rio coffee as follows: "Rio coffee has been dull, weak and decidedly lower, closing merely nominal and depressed at the close—prices 16¾@16¾c gold for ordinary to prime cargoes. The conviction is daily gaining ground among those not loaded or stocked to endure stocks, that prices must come down; that they are too high; that supply is enormous, yet prices are exorbitant, notwithstanding the late decline. The crop during the last few seasons has been large. Buyers have not had the benefit of lower prices which should result from large crops. Those desire still higher prices reckon on a short Brazilcrop this season. The final returns will, it is not improbable, show the calculations to be as fallacious as they are interesting; and now reliable intelligence from Washington that the duty will not be restored. Sugar is steady at former rates with rather easy market in Europe. Buyers have not New Orleans indicate rather firmer markets for New Orleans sugars and molasses. There has been quiet for all descriptions, but holders have maintained steady prices. The statistical position of coffee is firm and could be said to be unfavorable to holders, though the fact is unappreciated apparently by the present state of affairs. As regards the probabilities of the duty being restored, a well informed authority states that apparently the duty will not be reimposed. This appears to be due entirely to political reasons. No other departments there was a moderate and steady movement." Prices are unchanged, as follows:

Green Coffee.	₱ lb.	*Sugars.*	₱ lb.
Fancy Rio	20 c	Standard A	10¼c
Choice Rio	19 c	Standard B	10¼c
Prime Rio	18 c	Standard C	10¼c
Good Rio	17 c	Extra C—yellow	9¾c
Java	34 c	C—yellow	8¾c
Roasted Coffee.		Crushed	11¼c
Rio, in papers	22@23c	Cut Loaf	12¼c
Rio, in bulk	20@21c	Powdered	11¼c
3l grades do	25@27c	Granulated	11¼c
Java, in papers	35c	Granulated	11¼c
Java, in bulk	30c	*Molasses.*	
Teas.		Str'y ch. N. O. new	63c
Young Hyson	50@61c	Prime	59c
Gunpowder	50@72½c	Choice	56c
Imperial	50@62½c	*Syrups.*	
Japan	55@61c	Ex. white drips	70c
Oolong	25@ 48c	Sugar drips	60c
Fancy	1 00	Lower grades	35@50c
Common	25@ 30c	*Starch.*	₱ lb
Spices.	₱ lb	Pearl	4½@5c
Cloves	60 c	Corn—glossy	10½c
Alspice	18@19c	Corn	10½c
Cassia	38@40c	*Rice.*	
Ginger	25@30c	Choice Carl'a	7¼@8 c
Pepper	25 c	Patna	7¼@8 c
Soda.		Rangoon	7¼@8 c
Bi-carb, in kegs	5 c	*Soaps.*	
Bi-carb, in 10 ₱ pkgs	5½c	Castile	9¼@10c
Sal-soda, in kegs	2½c	Irish soap, in box	4½ 2?
Candles.		S. S. Star, ₱ box	5 c
Star, full weight	18 c	Babbitt's best, ₱ box	6 90
Stearine	16 c	Dobbin's No. 1	5 c
Mould	11@12 c	German mottled do	7½c

TOBACCOS—A moderate movement continues in manufactured, with fair to full prices and quotable change in values. We quote as follows:

Manufactured	
Spun roll	60@63c
Black Navy	58@60c
Black Twist	57@60c
Louisville Navy	63@68c
Louisville Cav	68@70c
Virginia Navy	58@60c
Virginia Twist	58@60c
Virginia Cav	59@62c
Virginia fine cut	70@75c
Kentucky fine cut	70@75c
Missouri fine cut	70@75c
Common fine cut	50@55c
Plug	40@60c
Navy plug	40@45c
Navy twist	40@45c
Navy fine cut	45@50c
Navy common	30@35c
Navy plug	30@35c
Navy twist	30@35c
Navy fine cut	35@40c
Navy common	25@30c
Navy plug	25@30c
Navy twist	25@30c
Navy fine cut	30@35c
Navy common	20@25c
Navy plug	20@25c
Navy twist	20@25c
Navy fine cut	25@30c
Navy common	15@20c
Navy plug	15@20c
Navy twist	15@20c
Navy fine cut	20@25c
Navy common	10@15c
Navy plug	10@15c
Navy twist	10@15c
Navy fine cut	15@20c
Navy common	10@15c
Leaf Tobacco—	
Western leaf	11 c
wrappers	15@20c
Western leaf—fogs	9@12c
Ohio seed wrap	18@25c
Ohio seed filler	9@12c
Connecticut	50@75c
wrapper	60@70c
Havana filler	60@75c
Havana wrap'r	125@250c
Havana fillers	60@125
Seed & Havana	30@ 50c
Havana	90@150

FISH—A steady trade is reported in fish, with a good demand. We present the following revised list of quotations:

	₱ bbl.
Extra No. 1 Mess	$ 00
No. 1 mess do	22 00
Ex. No. 1 shore do	28 00
No. 1 shore do	24 00
Ex. No. 1 bay do	22 00
No. 1 bay do	19 00
No. 2 do	15 00
Ex. No. 2 do	15 00
No. 2 do	13 00
Large No. 3 do	11 00
Whitefish	5 75
California salmon	
Hf-bbls	9 50

CANNED GOODS—There is a good demand at steady prices. We quote: Tomatoes, 3-lb cans ₱ doz, $1 90; peaches, 3-lb cans ₱ doz, $2 40@2 60; corn, 2-lb cans, ₱ doz, $2 25; Lima beans, 2-lb cans $2 25; string beans, 2-lb cans $1 90; cherries, 2-lb cans $2 25@2 50; blackberries, 2-lb cans $2 00; strawberries, 2-lb cans $2 00; raspberries, 2-lb cans $2 25; asparagus, 2-lb cans $3 00; green gages, 2-lb cans $2 00; pears, 2-lb cans $2 25; pine pickles, 1l 35; quart do $2 35; half gallon do $3 75; gallon pickles, $4 50; 2-lb cans pineapples, $2 50; 3-lb cans do $3 00; pickles, 1l 35; quart do $2 35; half gallon do $3 75; gallon pickles, $4 50; 2-lb cans pineapples, $2 50; 3-lb cans do $3 00; peaches, 2-lb cans $2 50; but easy market at 45@50c ₱ bushel.

POULTRY—The market was rather firm under the influence of the holiday demand. Quotations are rather nominal, transactions being largely confined to small lots. Live chickens are quoted at 4½@5c ₱ pair; live turkeys 75c@$1 25. Dressed poultry were active and firmer; chickens 12@13c ₱ lb; turkeys 14@16c; ducks 11@12c; Geese 9@10c.

VEGETABLES—Onions are in large stock, and dull. We quote at $1 15@1 20 ₱ barrel. Dried green peas are quoted at $1 65@1 75 ₱ bushel. Turnips 35@40c ₱ bushel; beets 45@ 50c ₱ bushel. Parsnips 60@70c ₱ bushel.

Provisions.

Trade continues steady, but under the influence of the marketing of a considerable amount of new meats, there is a general downward movement in quotations. We note reductions on hams, shoulders and sides of 1c ₱ lb, and the tendency is still downward. Under this general easing of values there is a tolerably fair demand, but the season is naturally one for light trade, there is a great improvement in the volume of business as compared with last year. Receipts continue liberal.

BACON—We quote shoulders at 10¼c ₱ lb; prices for sides are lower, the new crop being fairly in the market; clear rib sides 13¾c; clear sides 14c.

HAMS—We quote plain sugar-cured easy at 15¾c; sugar-cured shoulders 11½c; breakfast bacon is quoted at 16c; dried beef easy at 14¾c; beef tongues, per dozen, $7 00; ham sausage 10c.

MESS PORK—The market is easy but not quotably lower. We quote at $22 00 per bbl.

LARD—We quote prime lard refined, in tierces, ₱ lb 13¾@14c; half bbls do 14¼@14½c; in buckets, 14½@15c; in 3 lb caddies, 16c; in 5 lb caddies, 16½c; in 8 lb pails, 17½c; in 5 lb dozen 17½c; in 6 lb do, 17½c.

LARD OIL—The market is easy. We quote extra No. 1 lard oil, current make, $1 05 per gallon; No. 1 do, 90c; No. 2, 79c.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers' tallow at 10@ 10¼c; choice country rendered 9@9½c; medium do 7½@8c.

The table below shows the approximate number of hogs packed at the six leading packing points in the West, as shown by telegraph and latest mail dates and estimates since from November 1st to date, and comparisons with two preceding seasons:

	To Dec. 28, 1875.	To time in '74.	To time in '73.
Cincinnati	345,000	320,000	361,000
Chicago	745,000	910,000	950,000
St. Louis	170,000	225,000	320,000
Louisville	185,000	270,000	255,000
Milwaukee	90,000	150,000	170,000
Indianapolis	190,000	220,000	175,000
Total	1,725,000	2,165,000	2,310,000

Groceries.

There is a steady and moderately liberal movement in staple groceries at generally unchanged values. Coffee is rather easy under the influence of a weak market in the East. The *Bulletin* reviews the seaboard market for Rio coffee as follows: "Rio coffee has been dull, weak and decidedly lower, closing merely nominal and depressed at the close—prices 16¾@16¾c gold for ordinary to prime cargoes. The conviction is daily gaining ground among those not loaded or stocked to endure stocks, that prices must come down; that they are too high; that supply is enormous, yet prices are exorbitant, notwithstanding the late decline. The crop during the last few seasons has been large. Buyers have not had the benefit of lower prices which should result from large crops. Those desire still higher prices reckon on a short Brazilcrop this season. The final returns will, it is not improbable, show the calculations to be as fallacious as they are interesting; and now reliable intelligence from Washington that the duty will not be restored. Sugar is steady at former rates with rather easy market in Europe. Buyers have not New Orleans indicate rather firmer markets for New Orleans sugars and molasses. There has been quiet for all descriptions, but holders have maintained steady prices. The statistical position of coffee is firm and could be said to be unfavorable to holders, though the fact is unappreciated apparently by the present state of affairs. As regards the probabilities of the duty being restored, a well informed authority states that apparently the duty will not be reimposed. This appears to be due entirely to political reasons. No other departments there was a moderate and steady movement." Prices are unchanged, as follows:

Green Coffees.	₱ lb.	*Sugars.*	₱ lb.
Fancy Rio	20 c	Standard A	10¼c
Choice Rio	19 c	Standard B	10¼c
Prime Rio	18 c	Standard C	10¼c
Good Rio	17 c	Extra C—yellow	9¾c
Java	34 c	C—yellow	8¾c
Roasted Coffees.		Crushed	11¼c
Rio, in papers	22@23c	Cut Loaf	12¼c
Rio, in bulk	20@21c	Powdered	11¼c
3l grades do	25@27c	Granulated	11¼c
Java, in papers	35c	Granulated	11¼c
Java, in bulk	30c	*Molasses.*	
Teas.		Str'y ch. N. O. new	63c
Young Hyson	50@61c	Prime	59c
Gunpowder	50@72½c	Choice	56c
Imperial	50@62½c	*Syrups.*	
Japan	55@61c	Ex. white drips	70c
Oolong	25@ 48c	Sugar drips	60c
Fancy	1 00	Lower grades	35@50c
Common	25@ 30c	*Starch.*	₱ lb
Spices.	₱ lb	Pearl	4½@5c
Cloves	60 c	Corn—glossy	10½c
Alspice	18@19c	Corn	10½c
Cassia	38@40c	*Rice.*	
Ginger	25@30c	Choice Carl'a	7¼@8 c
Pepper	25 c	Patna	7¼@8 c
Soda.		Rangoon	7¼@8 c
Bi-carb, in kegs	5 c	*Soaps.*	
Bi-carb, in 10 ₱ pkgs	5½c	Castile	9¼@10c
Sal-soda, in kegs	2½c	Irish soap, in box	4½ 2?
Candles.		S. S. Star, ₱ box	5 c
Star, full weight	18 c	Babbitt's best, ₱ box	6 90
Stearine	16 c	Dobbin's No. 1	5 c
Mould	11@12 c	German mottled do	7½c

TOBACCOS—A moderate movement continues in manufactured, with fair to full prices and quotable change in values. We quote as follows:

Manufactured	
Spun roll	60@63c
Black Navy	58@60c
Black Twist	57@60c
Louisville Navy	63@68c
Louisville Cav	68@70c
Virginia Navy	58@60c
Virginia Twist	58@60c
Virginia Cav	59@62c
Virginia fine cut	70@75c
Kentucky fine cut	70@75c
Missouri fine cut	70@75c
Common fine cut	50@55c
Plug	40@60c
Navy plug	40@45c
Navy twist	40@45c
Navy fine cut	45@50c
Navy common	30@35c
Navy plug	30@35c
Navy twist	30@35c
Navy fine cut	35@40c
Navy common	25@30c
Navy plug	25@30c
Navy twist	25@30c
Navy fine cut	30@35c
Navy common	20@25c
Navy plug	20@25c
Navy twist	20@25c
Navy fine cut	25@30c
Navy common	15@20c
Navy plug	15@20c
Navy twist	15@20c
Navy fine cut	20@25c
Navy common	10@15c
Navy plug	10@15c
Navy twist	10@15c
Navy fine cut	15@20c
Navy common	10@15c
Leaf Tobacco—	
Western leaf	11 c
wrappers	15@20c
Western leaf—fogs	9@12c
Ohio seed wrap	18@25c
Ohio seed filler	9@12c
Connecticut	50@75c
wrapper	60@70c
Havana filler	60@75c
Havana wrap'r	125@250c
Havana fillers	60@125
Seed & Havana	30@ 50c
Havana	90@150

FISH—A steady trade is reported in fish, with a good demand. We present the following revised list of quotations:

	₱ bbl.
Extra No. 1 Mess	$ 50
No. 1 mess do	22 00
Ex. No. 1 shore do	28 00
No. 1 shore do	24 00
Ex. No. 1 bay do	22 00
No. 1 bay do	19 00
No. 2 do	15 00
Ex. No. 2 do	15 00
No. 2 do	13 00
Large No. 3 do	11 00
Whitefish	5 75
California salmon, Hf-bbls	9 50

CANNED GOODS—There is a good demand at steady prices. We quote: Tomatoes, 3-lb cans ₱ doz, $1 90; peaches, 3-lb cans ₱ doz, $2 40@2 60; corn, 2-lb cans, ₱ doz, $2 25; Lima beans, 2-lb cans $2 25; string beans, 2-lb cans $1 90; cherries, 2-lb cans $2 25@2 50; blackberries, 2-lb cans $2 00; strawberries, 2-lb cans $2 00; raspberries, 2-lb cans $2 25; asparagus, 3-lb cans $3 00; green gages, 2-lb cans $2 00; pears, 2-lb cans $2 25; pine pickles, 1l 35; quart do $2 35; half gallon do $3 75; gallon pickles, $4 50; 2-lb cans pineapples, $2 50; 3-lb cans do $3 00; pickles, 1l 35; quart do $2 35; half gallon do $3 75; gallon pickles, $4 50; 2-lb cans pineapples, $2 50; 3-lb cans do $3 00; peaches, 2-lb cans $2 50; but easy market at 45@50c ₱ bushel.

FOREIGN FRUITS—There is a fairly active business at unchanged prices. We quote: Raisins do 4@6c; dates to 10@12c; figs, 12@15c; Malaga Barley—Canada $1 30@1 35 ₱ bushel; choice spring $1 19@1 22; common to prime do $1 00@ 1 15; choice fall $1 30@1 35; other grades do 90c@$1 05. Rye—80@83c ₱ bushel for prime. Jobbing prices of corn and oats rule 3@5c above quotations.

FLOUR—There is little expectation by some dealers of an advance in prices, and grades rule during the next month, but at present prices every one is willing to buy. The trade has been stagnated by an eminent legal firm, much experienced in this class of cases, that a committee of ten, consisting of two ex-registers in bankruptcy, six practising lawyers and two judges, such as, for example, Judge Blatchford and Lowell, might get together and frame some amendments to the statutes which would greatly simplify the procedure, lessen expenses and give creditors a little better chance of dealing with the matter yet in embryo. We hope shortly to be able to give more definite details of defects in the present practice and the proposed corrections.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 29, 1875.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:40	3:10
Gold	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup.	123½	123⅝		

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1876.

THE unsolved conundrum of the day—Who is MORRISON?

THE Democratic rallying cry at Washington, according to the New York *Herald*, is "Imbecility to the Front!"

THE new Democratic order in the House of Representatives at Washington: "Whenever you find a Union soldier in office, bounce him!" In other words, "shoot him on the spot."

THE dissatisfaction of the Democrats over the composition of the House committees has by no means yet abated, but it is really anticipating too much to expect a KERR to produce thorough-bred committees.

HERE is another little straw showing in what direction the wind is setting for our Centennial year. The first city election of Frankfort, Indiana, held on Tuesday, resulted in a sweeping Republican victory. The Democracy made a bitter fight, but got beautifully snowed under.

IT IS worthy of remark that in all the cases in which the crooked whisky men have plead guilty they have been very careful not to put in that plea upon any indictment for felony. They have owned up only upon indictments for misdemeanors. There is method in their frankness.

IT APPEARS that out West there is a steady falling off both in the number of granges of Patrons of Husbandry and of their membership. In Iowa alone seventy subgranges have become defunct during the present year. The principal officers of the various State granges receive quite liberal salaries.

SAYS the Cincinnati *Commercial*: "We do not know a Democratic politician who is not electioneering for GRANT for the next Republican candidate. They have been at it for some months, and are in the habit of demonstrating, by a peculiar process of their own, that the Republicans must nominate GRANT."

NEW ENGLAND will be slow to trust the Democracy, hereafter, since the Democracy refuses absolutely to trust it. Mr. KERR ignored that section altogether, in making up his committees, and is backed by the Democratic House in his action. New Hampshire will be the first to respond to this plain evidence of a studied affront.

THE Custom House organ of New York, the *Commercial Advertiser*, has been very zealous for the third term, for a week or two past. The Collector's commission expired, lately, and the Collector has just been reappointed. As he has been confirmed the *Advertiser* can now let up on the third term, and resume its normal condition.

THE number of immigrants arriving at New York this years, up to the close of last week, is 99,582 against 149,762 in 1874, being a decrease of about thirty per cent. This falling off is attributed to the dullness of business. The number of return passports issued during the year is fifty per cent. less than during any year since 1855.

ENGLAND exported 44 tons of railroad iron to this country last month, against 1,819 tons for November 1874. Her total exports of railroad iron to the United States for the eleven months ending November 30th, have been 17,755 tons, against 93,445 tons for the corresponding period last year. Great Britain no longer holds mastery over our ways.

THE Philadelphia court, after a cogitation of three months, has finally decided to issue a mandamus to the Mount Moriah Cemetery Association, directing it to permit the interment of the body of HENRY JONES, who was denied burial because he was so unfortunate as to have a colored skin. The case will be taken up to the Supreme Court on an appeal.

THE Mississippi White Leaguers have now attacked a United States official and compelled him to seek safety in flight, the victim being a Deputy Internal Revenue Collector. This is exactly the same way in which to harken the advent of that million dollars of fresh money, according to Congressman LAMAR, the Democrats of Mississippi "hunger and yearn."

THE Cincinnati *Enquirer*, which is good Democratic authority, speaks of the newly appointed Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee as "a brawling, empty-headed, unknown village politician of Waterloo, Illinois." But as the Democratic side of the House is chiefly made up of that class, MORRISON may still be regarded as a representative man.

THE first regular National Convention—or rather the first two—met in 1840. Both parties, Whig and Democratic, adopted the custom at the same time.—*Chicago Tribune.*

The first regular National Convention was that of the Whig party. It met at Harrisburg in December, 1839, and nominated HARRISON and TYLER. The Democratic National Convention followed in 1840.

BANNING, the new Chairman of the Military Committee, was formerly a Republican, then a Liberal, and finally a Democrat. He served in the war with distinction, and was the only Union soldier on that side of the House. If a Confederate soldier had been wanted for the place, there were plenty to choose from; but as one of a different stamp was needed, they had to borrow him from us.

THE export of American dry goods to Europe has attracted the attention of the British Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the London *Telegraph* bluntly tells the British manufacturers that they are losing their mastery by swindling in their goods. It says that the "trick" has been found out and "will not bear repetition." The prospects of this branch of the general fabric of American industry begin to loom up quite encouragingly.

THE Catholics who recently assembled at St. Paul to witness the consecration of Bishop IRELAND adopted a series of seventy-three resolutions, protesting against the removal, by the President, of Chief Justice DUNNE, of Arizona, on account of his position on the common school question, and expressing their opinions on various other points. They should have added three more to the series, and put the lot up as embodying "the spirit of '76."

IF THE professions of the Democracy are put into practice, economy is going to be the order of the day with Congress to an extent rarely seen before. It is to be hoped these agreeable promises may be fulfilled. Mr. RANDALL is represented as feeling confident of obtaining the support of the Republicans of his committee, and a majority of the Republicans on the floor for the principal measures of retrenchment which he intends to propose.

WEST VIRGINIA has been but two or three years under Democratic control, and yet she is already approaching bankruptcy. It was announced in the House of Delegates on Wednesday last that the excess of expenditures over receipts this year would be the nice little sum of one hundred thousand dollars. Last year the excess in the same direction was $28,745 51. Bankruptcy appears to be the inevitable result of Democratic rule, everywhere.

THERE is a possibility that Republican principles are to become Democratic makeshifts at Washington, this winter. A correspondent says that the more thoughtful leaders of the party are exceedingly anxious that the Southern Democrats shall, by a square vote, put themselves on record against the heresy of secession, it being considered absolutely necessary that this should be done to give the party any chance of success in the Presidential election.

THE New York *Herald* was very jubilant over the adoption of SPRINGER'S anti-third term resolution in the House, but is now less satisfied with it. It says:

The anti-third term resolution which young Mr. Springer so suddenly sprung on the House, though a temporary triumph, was a substantial mistake, because it is for the interest of the Democratic party that General Grant should be the Republican candidate, and forcing the Republicans to vote against a third term blunted the most trenchant of the Democratic weapons.

A DISPATCH from Washington city states that, so far as heard from, the majority of members of the National Democratic Committee are opposed to holding the next Democratic National Convention east of Cincinnati. Some of the Eastern members want the Convention held in Pittsburgh. The Committee will not be called together until after the Republican Committee have selected their location, which will be done on the 13th proximo. We speak for the entire city when we beg the Committee not to think of Pittsburgh as a possible place for such a Convention.

THE GREENBACK.

We confess to an unshaken confidence in the national currency, which carried the nation safely through its struggle to maintain its existance. The greenback is linked, by a thousand patriotic associations, with our grand national contest, and as it helped to carry the country through the crisis of its fate, we can see no good reason for being in a hurry to get rid of it. There are solid and strong arguments for allowing the holders of national currency to fund it in national bonds, if they want to; but there are no arguments to justify the country in wishing to drive that money out of circulation.

The President, in his message of December, 1873, declared that our greenbacks were the best currency this country ever had, if not the best in the world, and said it ought to be increased with the rising demands of trade, and that the volume then issued was not more than enough for the season when the demands of trade were at lowest tide.

The people, then, coincided very thoroughly with the President in his sentiment on this subject; and he must excuse them if they seem slow in coming to his present changed conclusion that we should get rid of this currency as soon as possible and deprive it of that which gives it value, its legal tender character.

The greenback currency is as good now as it was in 1873, and it has lost none of its hold on public confidence. Its constitutionality has been affirmed by the Supreme Court, and whatever doubts there may be as to the constitutional right of Congress to authorize any further increase of it in times of peace, there can be no question as to the legality of the notes in circulation. They have upon them the stamp of our supreme judicial authority; and as this currency is confessedly sound, safe and legal, why should it not continue to be kept in circulation?

The legislation which made these notes a legal tender in the payment of debts was, in effect, a contract of the Government with the people by which, in return for the public confidence given to the notes so issued, the Government agreed to confer upon them the attributes of actual money. Is it fair or honest for the Government now to violate its part of the contract? There is, of course, no legal power to enforce such a contract; but there is a moral force behind it which should render it sacred. The Government is morally bound to maintain, unchanged, the character which, in the hour of its extremity, it gave to this currency.

We protest, therefore, against any attempt to demonetize the greenbacks. If anything further is done by Congress with reference to their value, it should be to enhance, not to depreciate their worth. It may provide for their redemption in gold upon presentation, or for funding them in national bonds, and either or both of these courses would add to their actual value; but it would be ruinous, as well as a gross and inexcusable breach of faith to destroy their value as legal tenders. Let well enough alone. A good office in all that concerns the business affairs of an individual, and it is equally good as advice to the National Government. The entire community is satisfied with the greenbacks as they are, and why not, therefore, leave them alone?

There is not, we know, a great deal of financial wisdom in Congress; but we trust there is enough to resist the specious but bad advice to take away from our national currency its monetary character. If the nation is compelled to choose between greenbacks and silver bank notes, the latter will most certainly go to the wall. It will be better not to drive the people to such a choice. The greenbacks have served an admirable purpose, and are still acceptable to the general public as a national currency. It would be the supremest folly, consequently, to thrust them aside by depriving them of what has given them value and character. We are in favor of applying to this, as to all other worthy objects, the apostolic injunction of "hold fast to that which is good;" and whatever shape the financial question may take, as to the matter of the redemption of the greenbacks, let us hold on firmly to that system of national currency which has so far stood every test safely.

THE Chicago *Inter-Ocean* of Saturday devotes several columns to the publication of a highly sensational but wholly improbable story to the effect that, under the law which provides that any man appearing before the Senate or House, or a committee of either, separate or joint, and who shall testify to any facts in his possession, such testimony shall not be used to his hurt in any criminal proceeding which may be instituted against him, General BABCOCK has been invited to appear before a Congressional committee, to be composed of four Democrats and three Republicans, with RANDALL as chairman, and relate fully all he knows concerning the whisky ring. The account says that BABCOCK has accepted the proposition, and that he threatens to show that BRISTOW "has from the start been as deep in the mud as JOYCE is now in the penitentiary." If, which we do not believe, there is any such project afoot, the object of course is to freeze out proceedings against him in the courts of St. Louis. It won't work, however. If General BABCOCK has any proofs of conspiracy against the Government between Secretary BRISTOW and the whisky ring, the United States Court is the proper place in which to produce them. BABCOCK may be smaller game than BRISTOW, and there may be those who, to save the former, would be willing to drive a stake through the latter. But the people care nothing either for personal friendships, personal enmities, or personal ambitions, in this matter. They want justice done—and they intend that it shall be done. Their motto is "let no guilty man escape."

BRISTOW AND THE WHISKY FRAUDS.

The charges trumped up by the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* against Secretary BRISTOW, in the interest of the indicted BABCOCK, constitute what may be termed a Cock and Bull story. There is nothing in any of the allegations to shake public confidence in the Secretary of the Treasury, even if their truth be conceded; and as their truth is promptly and positively denied, the concocted story becomes as false as it is frivolous.

We have all along supposed that BABCOCK would never allow himself to be tried on the indictment found against him if he could help it; and this *Inter-Ocean* fabrication is evidence of his intention to sneak out of the trial he was apparently so anxious to invoke, under cover of an attack upon Secretary BRISTOW. But this trick will not win. Mr. BABCOCK does not need to be told that two wrongs do not make one right; and he cannot prove himself innocent by attempting to prove BRISTOW guilty.

The doctrine of the Administration is "Let no guilty man escape." If BRISTOW is guilty (which no sensible man believes) let him be punished; but at the same time, if BABCOCK be guilty, let him, also, be punished. BABCOCK'S guilt or innocence, we submit, is to be determined upon the evidence which affects and applies to him, and has nothing to do with the guilt or innocence of any one else.

We submit, also, for Mr. BABCOCK'S consideration the fact that Secretary BRISTOW does not act like a man guilty of a connection with whisky frauds. Whatever may have been his personal and legal relations *before* he was made Secretary, he is not now on trial for or on account of them. His actions as Secretary are all that he can be held accountable for; and every act of his, as a public officer, has shown him a fearless administrator of the law against the whisky thieves. No one connected with the whisky frauds has ever voluntarily raised a hand or spoken a word for their exposure; and the Secretary's relentless raid upon the recusants is the best possible evidence of his freedom from all possible connection or sympathy with them.

The *Inter-Ocean-Babcock* attack upon the fearless and incorruptible Secretary of the Treasury is so ridiculous and so baseless that the country could well afford to laugh at its imbecility, if it were not for the fact that it is plainly a part of a general plan to drive the Secretary out of the Cabinet. The charges are made in the interest and for the benefit of BABCOCK, and as BABCOCK'S father-in-law, and the father-in-law of Lieutenant Colonel Grant, both live in Chicago, it is admissible, in putting these facts together, to guess at the source from which the attack springs. The conspirators, in their over-anxiety to get BRISTOW out of the way, have not been careful enough to hide their tracks.

That BRISTOW will have to go out of the Cabinet we regard as certain. Either he or BABCOCK must go under, and the whisky ring do not feel easy for a moment so long as BRISTOW remains in power. But if he goes, we warn the President that the game is too transparent to escape detection. The keen-eyed public can see through it at a glance, and the odium of the removal will not fall upon the Secretary. The way to make him popular is to turn him out on account of his severity in prosecuting the whisky thieves, and he will not be turned out for any other reason. The country will stand by BRISTOW as a pure and honest and fearless public officer, and any attempt to punish him for the stand he has taken against corruption and fraud will recoil with fearful severity upon all engaged in it.

We cannot believe it possible that Mr. RANDALL is a party to this dirty scheme to blacken the reputation of the Secretary and open a door for BABCOCK'S escape. If he is, so much the worse for him, and for his party if it abets him. Whoever stands in the way of bringing the whisky bandits to condign punishment will be swept away in the storm of public indignation. Congress will do well to examine into this whole whisky business *after* the courts get through with it; but let it not step in to stop the righteous operation of judicial scrutiny. BABCOCK is indicted and BRISTOW is not. Let the former, therefore, remain in the hands of his just judges until he is disposed of, leaving the course of justice free from Congressional interposition and unobstructed in its operations. Let no guilty man be shielded from the effects of his crimes. No party can afford to stand by the whisky robbers or their aiders and abettors, and no man professing to be a statesman can afford to be used as a shield for them. Whenever there is any proof of BRISTOW'S participation with them, let him be dealt with as severely as the rest; but until there is (and no such proof has yet been produced), let no man who values his reputation risk it by affording aid and comfort to the conspirators who have no chance of escape but in getting BRISTOW out of the way.

THE Springfield *Republican* is authority for the statement that prominent Catholics, like Senator KERNAN and Cardinal MCCLOSKEY, are reported as giving welcome to the simple BLAINE proposition forbidding the connection of religious sects with the public schools, saying they would be glad to see it a part of the Constitution as settling the school question forever, and relieving their church alike from the temptation of some of its zealots to demand public money for its parochial schools, and the odium which politicians and Protestants sometimes seek to bring against it on this ground for denominational or political effect. There would be great cause for congratulation if this should turn out to be the fact. Senator KERNAN is sufficiently wise in his generation, as a politician, to see that this is the right thing to do, but we doubt whether Cardinal MCCLOSKEY is gifted with the same amount of worldly wisdom. The clerical class, which he represents, has not been given any evidence of being so far-sighted and clear-sighted as this would indicate. Leaving the clergy out of the question altogether, the Democratic politicians who are members of the Catholic Church certainly have the shrewdness to see that it would be supremely foolish to allow themselves to be entrapped into an opposition to the BLAINE amendment. The sharp thing for the political men of all parties to do is to pass the BLAINE amendment unanimously, and so force it out of our national politics.

WE have received from Coudersport a printed copy of "An Appeal to the Legislature," that will be presented at the coming session, asking for a relaxation of the severity of our penal laws forbidding secular labor on the first day of the week, so far as the same may apply to those who conscientiously observe the seventh day as the Sabbath.

There are in Pennsylvania, this appeal tells us, four or more organizations, or denominations of religionists, who feel conscientiously bound to observe the seventh day of the week as the only weekly Sabbath, whose number, in the aggregate, about fifty thousand souls. These people are distinguished from the mass of their fellow-citizens, by their observance of the seventh day of the week as the divinely appointed day of worship and rest. Several of these denominations differ only in that particular and in reference to some other peculiarities, from other Protestant Christians of an evangelical type, and from the great Baptist denomination, only in the single point respecting the Sabbath.

Our laws make an exception in favor of those who conscientiously refuse to take an oath, and permit an affirmation instead. The liability to bear arms has also, at various times, been temporarily remitted in favor of those conscientiously opposed to war. The same principle, applied to these conscientious Sabbatarians, would relieve them from the penalties of the Sunday law. We do not now say that it should be done; but there certainly are plenty of precedents to justify it.

THE House has a standing committee on Civil Service Reform, and Mr. KERR has appointed the usual proportion of Democrats upon it. Most, if not all the Democrats thus chosen for service on this subject, have heretofore been very noisy in denouncing the Republicans for their failure to establish a complete system of civil service, and we will now see what *they* will do toward framing such a system. The New York *Herald* well says:

The duties of this committee are, we believe, to see that good men are appointed to office and kept there during good behavior. The members are also to censure all attempts at the interference of officers in political reasons. This is a good idea, and the sooner the committee goes to work the better. Let it inquire how many competent men, men of honor and capacity, who have been for years in the service of the House, have been dismissed in the past few days. Let it demand the reasons for these removals, the names of the persons appointed to succeed them, and the reasons for the appointment of these new men. Let it summon the Postmaster and ask him for the names of the battalion of Democratic doorkeepers which have been brought from Alexandria to find snug berths in the capital they tried so hard to burn a few years ago. Let it give the country the benefit of the meeting and have recommended the wholesale removal of old and faithful and efficient servants of the House to make room for the squads of ex-Confederate soldiers, widows, mourners and rebels who have been quartered on the House. There is no better way to begin this civil service investigation. The House is Democratic. If the Democrats mean to have this reform now is their chance.

NAVIGATION did not open at Buffalo last spring until May 12th, or twenty-four days later than in 1874, and the heavy shipments from the West closed several days earlier this fall than usual. The *Commercial Advertiser* thinks these facts fully account for the falling off in the receipts of flour, grain and miscellaneous articles by lake during the season just closed. The aggregate decline in the movement of breadstuffs was 4,500,000 bushels; but the receipts of grain, exclusive of flour, show the falling off to be only 2,800,000 bushels. This decline was almost entirely in the receipts of corn, which were 17,408,417 bushels, against 22,392,856 bushels last year, 27,930,264 in 1873, and 35,077,269 in the year preceding. The wheat movement aggregated 30,489,460 bushels, exceeding the receipts of 1874 by over 2,000,000 bushels. In coarse freights the decline was more noticeable than in that of grain. The receipts of lumber reach 126,191,493 feet, against 140,156,957 feet in 1874, and 212,500,960 feet in the year preceding. The receipts of staves and hoops, which formerly constituted an important item of coarse lake freight business, also show a decline. The former this year were 15,313,116, against 22,235,809 in 1874, and the latter 21,963,200, against 25,184,900 last year. The receipts of iron ore were over fifty per cent. in excess of those of 1874, but considerably below those of the previous season.

WHILE STANLEY and CAMERON have been heroically pushing their explorations among the jungles of Central Africa, a Russian geographer, Professor NORDENSKIOLD, has also won unfading laurels by navigating a sea which has always hitherto been regarded as closed by walls of impenetrable ice. The water in question lies between the island of Nova Zembla and the continent of Europe. Some forty-three years ago an expedition to penetrate it was wrecked and never heard of, and twenty years later another was turned back by ice. Professor NORDENSKIOLD, however, sailed through it uninterrupted, rounding the promontory into the gulf of Obi in Northern Asia, where several great rivers debouch, the region being found rich in grasses, forests and other articles for commercial intercourse. The valleys of these great rivers, the Professor thinks, can be reached from Europe by the route which he has traversed. Most of the inhabitants were long ago swept off by pestilence, and the country is now but sparsely populated. The region lies within the Arctic circle, but the climate is said to be considerably milder than that of Alaska.

AT a meeting of the officers of the National Temperance Alliance, held in New York, arrangements were partly made for an International Temperance Centennial Convention, to be held in Philadelphia about the 10th of June of the coming year. Some of the leading temperance reformers of Great Britain have arranged to be present, and the convention will last at least three days, and sit in sections, as does the Social Science Congress, to discuss the different branches of the subject. It is proposed to have papers on the history and work of each of the temperance organizations and societies in this country and Great Britain, a history of the earlier movements in the temperance reform, histories of the reform in Canada, France, Germany and Sweden, and papers on the legal, medical, moral and religious phases of the reform, all prepared by the men best qualified for their peculiar work. Steps were also taken to secure an expression of the churches of the country on the question of permitting the sale of intoxicating liquors on the Centennial grounds.

THE alleged revelation, in the New York *Herald*, of the secrets of a new political order, the "Order of the American Union," amounts to very little. That there is such a society is probably true, and that it is political in its purposes; but the *Herald* has revealed but little concerning it that was not known before. The Order referred to confines its membership to American-born citizens, and its main purpose is directed against sectarian influence in politics; but it has not spread rapidly and has but little force. It has been in existence since 1867, and yet has only thirty-seven lodges in Pennsylvania in 1875. There is no good reason to believe that either the President or Mr. BLAINE belongs to it. If, as the *Herald* avers, the order is committed to the Third Term policy for GRANT, the allegation that BLAINE has been induced to join it is ridiculous. The managers, if committed to GRANT, would not permit an opposing candidate to come in and distract its councils. The whole story seems to have been got up as a sensation, and it will serve, as well as anything else, for a nine days' wonder.

THE Washington correspondent of the St. Louis *Republican* furnishes that paper with an interesting statement of the various grants of public lands to railroads, showing that the policy of land subsidies had its origin in 1850, when a grant of 2,595,053 acres was made to the Illinois Central Railroad. This was followed in 1862 by the grant of 35,000,000 acres to the several Pacific roads; in 1866, of 42,000,000 acres to the Atlantic and Pacific; 1,700,000 acres to the St. Joseph and Denver City road; 1,203,000 acres to the Southern branch of the Union Pacific Railroad; 1,200,00 acres to the Oregon Central road; 16,400,000 acres to the Texas Pacific road; 47,000,000 acres to the Northern Pacific road, and 3,200,000 to the Oregon branch of the Central Pacific road, making 100,295,- 000 acres of public land granted to the roads mentioned. The record of the votes in the Senate on these grants shows that in many cases there was no division, and that in those where the yeas and nays were taken the majority was generally large.

MANY merchants in various cities of the country having been in the habit of sending out papers devoted to special interests, in their own name, printed boldly on the wrapper, addressed "in the care of" their customers, at the regular pound rate chargeable on daily papers, the question was submitted to the Postoffice Department, and the following decision has just been rendered:

"That a newspaper or periodical sent by mail to a regular subscriber implies not only the name of such subscriber, but his residence or place of business also. When a subscriber is temporarily absent there would be no objection to such paper at the pound rate to the place where he may be temporarily sojourning, but when papers are addressed to subscribers at places where they have no permanent or temporary residence or place of business, with an evident intention to defraud the Government of the legitimate rate of postage to which such papers are subject, they should not be delivered until postage has been paid thereon at transient rates, notwithstanding they may be sent to the care of some other individual."

THE New York *Bulletin* thinks that the year is closing with symptoms of some improvement in the condition of business affairs. During the present month there has been a marked falling off in the number of failures; which is the more remarkable considering that the settlements to be made in the last month of the year are always the severest test of the resources of men of business. The *Bulletin* says:

"Failures are in the best times expected at the end of the year; but at present they are few and insignificant. Another welcome symptom is the growing activity in the money market. It is refreshing to find the rate for call loans quoted at plump seven per cent.; and this not the result of any temporary speculative manipulation, but of a healthier demand for loans and of a growing disposition on the part of capitalry to employ capital which has long laid idle. There seems to be some reason to hope that 1876 will open with a better feeling."

FATHER CALLAHAN, the editor of the Cincinnati *Catholic Telegraph*, is very sure that the New York *Herald* is right about that dreadful secret order, the "O. A. U." He writes from Cincinnati to the *Herald* puts the following language into Father CALLAHAN'S mouth:

He knew that an American Union existed and that the leading men of the Administration were identified with it. He had seen a pamphlet issued from Washington, addressed to the league and stating the objects of the organization. Grant's Des Moines speech, his message and the letter of the apostate Catholic, ex-Speaker KELLEY, to the Fourth of July orator of the Newark *Advertiser*, indicated plainly the conflict impending.

It may be news to Father CALLAHAN, but it is nevertheless true that he has got his facts all wrong. BLAINE is *not* an "apostate Catholic," and it was FOSTER who wrote to BLAINE, not BLAINE to FOSTER. Besides that, FOSTER is *not* and never was the editor of the Newark *Advertiser*.

A MOVEMENT for the establishment of a new line of American steamers is on foot in New York, with, as is said, good prospects of success. The attempt will first be made to run a line to Liverpool, and then if the undertaking prove successful by the increase in traffic, steamers will be run from New York to the principal European ports. The capital is being raised by subscription, and the shares are placed at $100. The line will be called the "American Transatlantic Steamship Company." This is better than BOUTWELL'S proposition to pay bounties for building vessels or subsidies to steamship lines, with the provision that in case of war the Government shall have the right to buy them at a valuation. It was never easier or cheaper to build American vessels than now. Our shipyards, with capacity to do the finest work, only wait for orders. Labor, material and skill can all be commanded at the lowest rates.

A DISPATCH to the New York *Evening Post* states that Mr. RANDALL is reported to have said to the Committee on Appropriations, at its recent meeting, that, while he believed the Government estimates could be cut down somewhat, he did not intend nor should he be persuaded to make reductions so radical as to be likely to embarrass the operations of the Government. He was answered by a prominent Republican member that he would be heartily seconded in the line of strict economy by that side, but that any attempt to cut down appropriations for purposes of obstruction would be met with unconpromising opposition. The temper of the meeting is said to have augured favorably for future harmony. The position here taken is the proper one, and we feel sure that the Republican members of the House will heartily co-operate in any sincere and proper effort to cut down the national expenses.

DURING the late campaign, the State Treasurer was charged by the Democrats with having, several years ago, drawn upon the money assigned to the sinking fund to meet the current demands on the Treasury, and was roundly abused for so doing; and now the same party is abusing him because with plenty of money in the Treasury belonging to the sinking fund and none at all belonging to the general fund, he has addressed a circular letter to judges and other claimants against the Treasury, notifying them of this fact and his inability to pay until the general fund is replenished. Meanwhile a large amount has accumulated in the "sinking fund" account, and as there are no State bonds due it lies idle. So much for the demagogism of the Democracy.

THE new freight rates agreed upon by the four great trunk lines, are lower on all classes of freight from New York and Philadelphia to Chicago than are charged on the same kinds of freight from Boston to the West. The next step will be for Boston to cut under. The following are the new freight rates from New York to the West:

	First class.	Second class.	Third class.	Fourth class.	Spec'l.
Chicago, Louisville...	30c.	25c.	20c.	20c.	15c.
St. Louis	39c. 43c.	34c. 36c.	28c. 31c.	28c. 31c.	23c. 26c.

The rates to Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Detroit, Toledo and Cleveland are the same as those to Chicago. The new schedule takes effect to-day.

THEY are catching a glimpse of the Pope's toe across the Northern border, now. At a densely crowded meeting held in Montreal on Friday night to organize the "Protestant Defense Alliance of Canada," the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the increasingly aggressive spirit of the Romish hierarchy in this province, as shown not only in influencing the Government and Legislature, but in other ways affecting civil and religious rights and liberties of this Dominion, as well as in the persecution of those who have left the Church of Rome, renders it necessary for Protestants and others to unite and resist these encroachments, and to extend aid and sympathy to those suffering for conscience sake.

THE New York papers state that among the prisoners who are daily arraigned before the courts of that city for different offenses, are to be found a very large number of intelligent and respectable looking young men, who, being discharged from manufactories and warehouses in consequence of the dullness of trade, have lived from hand to mouth while seeking employment, and, failing in obtaining any, have been driven to despair and dishonesty. How wide and far the splinters of the destitution and ruin wrought by the great financial storm of 1873 and the dreadful business depression that has followed in its track, were driven!

TEN years have elapsed since WILLIAM BUTLER DUNCAN assumed control of the great banking house of DUNCAN, SHERMAN & Co., with a capital estimated at $3,000,000. It was a time of inflation, and he entered into a variety of wild schemes, one of which was the petroleum bubble. The entire capital is now gone, the loss being equal to $1,000 a day. A few days ago his private library was sold at public auction. Such is the humiliating lesson of a grand house whose once ample means have been wasted in ridiculous speculations.

THE frequent occurrence of extraordinary accidents in Europe, within a very short space of time, such as the sinking or burning of ships, collisions, and mine and dynamite explosions, relieve the United States from a monopoly of such events. It seems that such things can happen in Europe as well as here, and that the people on the other side of the Atlantic are subject to shocks just as awful as any that have befallen the people of America. There may be some things that are better attended to in Europe, than here; but the provision against fearful accidents does not appear to be among them.

OUR importations of most descriptions of foreign merchandise have been greatly reduced this year. At the port of New York alone they have fallen $85,000,000 below those of the year immediately preceding the panic and $65,000,000 below those of last year. People cannot afford the expense they have heretofore indulged, and many have reconsidered their mode of living. The necessity for economy still exists, and is likely to continue for an indefinite period. There never were a hundred and one cents found in a dollar, yet.

WHATEVER the future may reveal, this year will have marked a distinct decline in the reproductive business of England. The Board of Trade returns for November show that there is still an increase of imports, coupled with a decrease of exports, and that the increased importation is, as before, due to an increased inflow of articles of consumption. The London *Times* says:

"Taking the general aspect of the eleven month's figures, one may say that the result of the year's trade will be that the value of the imports will exceed by at about last year's figures, while that of the exports will show a very distinct decrease."

THE late great reduction in freights by the four principal railroads of the country was caused by the refusal of the Grand Trunk Railway of Cadada to join the combination for higher rates. That road persisted in cutting under the other roads on freights from Chicago to the seaboard, and the other roads have retaliated by cutting under the rates of the Grand Trunk. If the latter cuts under again, carrying for still less than the new rates, the four Eastern lines will respond by a further reduction, and so on until the Grand Trunk gets tired of it. The fight is not likely to last long.

The following is the third term hymn as published in the Washington *National Republican*:

"Who'd crush the germ of a green third term
In a superstition's scare;
If the SOVEREIGN WILL—all potent still—
Holds the Nation's armor bare?
But let the leaders plan for the 'coming man,'
The sentinel's post be ours,
To hold the fort, with heaven's support,
Against baffled treason's powers!"

The editor of the *Gazette* is now setting this to appropriate music, and will lead the congregation when it sings.

ACCORDING to the annual report of the State Auditor of Ohio, just published, the total value of the taxable property of the state is $1,598,585,852, an increase during the last fifty years of thirty fold. The rate of taxation during the same period, however, has increased over one hundred per cent. This year the taxable property has increased but little over one per cent., while the taxes have swelled from $26,837,- 196 to $27,962,971, an increase of over four per cent., a disparity altogether abnormal.

MR. MORRISON, the new Democratic leader in the House, has been distinguished principally, in his Congressional career, as the persistent advocate of private claims against the Government. The journals of the House have been ransacked for his record, and it is made up of sundry items all showing that Mr. MORRISON introduced or called up and had passed "a bill for the relief of" some suffering Sucker among his constituents. He is, in short, an Illinois rooster.

THE Indianapolis *Journal* is another Republican paper which believes that the regular army might be reduced without subscription, and the shares are placed at $100. The line will be called the "American Transatlantic Steamship Company." This is better than BOUTWELL'S proposition to pay bounties for building vessels or subsidies to steamship lines, with the provision that in case of war the Government shall have the right to buy them at a valuation. It was never easier or cheaper to build American vessels than now. Our shipyards, with capacity to do the finest work, only wait for orders. Labor, material and skill can all be commanded at the lowest rates.

A DISPATCH to the New York *Evening Post* states that Mr. RANDALL is reported to have said to the Committee on Appropriations, at its recent meeting, that, while he believed the Government estimates could be cut down somewhat, he did not intend nor should he be persuaded to make reductions so radical as to be likely to embarrass the operations of the Government. He was answered by a prominent Republican member that he would be heartily seconded in the line of strict economy by that side, but that any attempt to cut down appropriations for purposes of obstruction would be met with unconpromising opposition. The temper of the meeting is said to have augured favorably for future harmony. The position here taken is the proper one, and we feel sure that the Republican members of the House will heartily co-operate in any sincere and proper effort to cut down the national expenses.

POLITICAL.

General.

A conference of Republicans in Richmond lately discussed the subject of reorganization for the Presidential campaign, and resolved to establish an organ in Richmond.

The Erie (Pa.) *Observer*, a Democratic paper, nominates Gen. Hancock for President. When Grant was running the second time, in 1872, it was understood that the *Observer* concurred with the other organs of its party in the opinion that the country didn't want military men in the White House.—*Troy Times.*

In a very earnest sermon the Rev. Dr. Field, of Bangor, Me., last Sunday took the ground that the enforced reading of the Bible in the public schools could do the cause of religion little good, while the illfeelings and discord it would introduce into the schools would do much harm. Dr. Field also quoted the Rev. Dr. Harris, of the Yale Theological Seminary, as one who holds similar views on the same question.

The fight for the Senatorial succession in Iowa to the seat of Senator Wright, whose term expires in 1877, is already commencing to be waged in a very vigorous manner through the newspapers in that State. Senator Wright having retired from the field some time since, four candidates are already contesting for the place—Harlan, Price, Kirkwood and Secretary Belknap—and the fight is raging fast and furious. Fortunately the Republican margin in Iowa is sufficient to allow of a heated contest without seriously endangering the succession, and a lively canvass may develop such facts as to insure the selection of the best man.

A WRITER who discusses the subject of diet very intelligently, says: "Attention to diet is of the first consequence to those who wish to improve or retain their looks, as well as to enjoy the perfect possession of their faculties." The maxims he lays down for healthy eating are: Masticate thoroughly, in a cheerful, composed humor, and drink in sips. Gentle exercise is allowable after meals. The moment the first appetite is satisfied leave off, and be not tempted by any delicacy to recommence.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

CHRISTMAS.

BY MRS. LEVI WADE.

'Twas starlight o'er the Holy Land,
And earth as calmly slept
As though no tears of agony
By man had e'er been wept;
The leaves, stirred gently by the breeze,
Kissed lovingly the flowers;
The bending reeds by Jordan's breast
Passed dreamily the hours.

The waters of deep Galilee
Their white spray gently bore,
And lightly breathed their lyric waves
Upon the pebbled shore.
Around Jerusalem's fair towers
The lucent moonbeams played—
With marble pave and temple dome
In silvery light arrayed.

No vestured priest stood heedful nigh
The stainless altar's side;
The vivid voice of psalm and chaunt
In soft repose had died;
The shepherds on Judea's plains
From labor had surceased,
When suddenly the presaged Star
Grew burning in the East.

Across the wide etherial sea
It greatened on its way,
Nor anchored till it dipped its flames
O'er where the Christ-child lay.
Unbidden music of the spheres
Quickened the night like leaven,
And harmonies of unborn years
Caught up the song from Heaven.

The quiring cherubim brake forth
With "Peace—good will to men!"
While utmost corners of the earth
Echoed the strain again.
No herald e'er such mission bore
Since Time to being sprang—
For all the immeasurable worlds,
With Man's salvation rang.

Michigan has 113,413 farms under cultivation, containing 10,213,692 acres.

Swindler is the suggestive name of the principal contractor for the great canal in Colorado.

Judge Virgin belongs to the Supreme Court of Maine. He should hold only maiden assizes.

About 1,400 miles of new railroad will be completed this year, which is much better than was expected.

A mercy to be thankful for. The New York managers have refused Tupper's Centennial drama as unfitted to the stage.

Sea-bathing is very popular at Santa Monica, California, just now, and they had a great swimming match Christmas day.

Died at his post. "Going, going, *gone*," cried a Michigan auctioneer the other day, and as the last word was uttered, dropped dead.

A thornless and fragrant rose. Chauncey Rose, of Terre Haute, has given $2,000,000 within twenty-five years to charitable institutions.

A New York court has just decided that a leased or hired piano may be seized for debt, and dealers are in a quaver of excitement over the matter.

Growth. Thirty-six years ago the first white child was born in Iowa, and he is living now. To-day, there are over half a million Hawkeyes by birth.

The recent earthquake shocks on the parallel running from Washington west-ward to Cumberland embraced a section hitherto rarely subject to them.

That Jewish fair in New York for the benefit of the Mount Sinai Hospital realized one hundred and ten thousand dollars in cash before adjourning *Sinai die.*

An illustration. Of fifty recent able-bodied applicants at the Boston Charity Bureau, only ten were willing to earn a good dinner by sawing wood ten or fifteen minutes.

Only fifteen applications have been received since the recent vote of the Boston city government to give employment to all applicants at one dollar per day—a fact which speaks for itself.

Mutation. A few days ago two ladies, descendants of three of the most distinguished men whose names are interwoven with the history of the country, were turned out of their home at Washington for nonpayment of rent.

Of Iowa's entire population over sixteen years, only one in one hundred and sixty-eight cannot read. Iowa has 9,325 public school houses, employing 6,280 male teachers and 10,713 female teachers. The number of scholars is 505,381.

The current number of *Fraser's Magazine* contains a remarkable article by Mr. Blyden, an African negro, taking the ground that Islamism, as the religion of equal rights and impartial justice, is better adapted to the black race than Christianity.

A Hoosier named Musselman appears to have been indulging in some very cheap generosity. After subscribing $5,000, in the shape of a note to the Smithson College funds, he repudiated the note when it became due. An honest Moslem would have refused to be guilty of such a shabby trick.

Practical Christianity. The Children's Aid Society of New York has this year taken care of 13,911 different boys and girls, and supplied 233,410 meals and 176,- 261 lodgings. In the 21 day and 13 evening industrial schools of the society were 10,- 357 children, who were taught and partly fed and clothed; while 4,026 were sent to good homes, mainly in the West.

PERSONAL.

Saturday was the birthday of Joshua Montgomery Sears, of Boston. Mr. Sears is the son of Joshua Sears, deceased, who left an estate now valued at nearly n